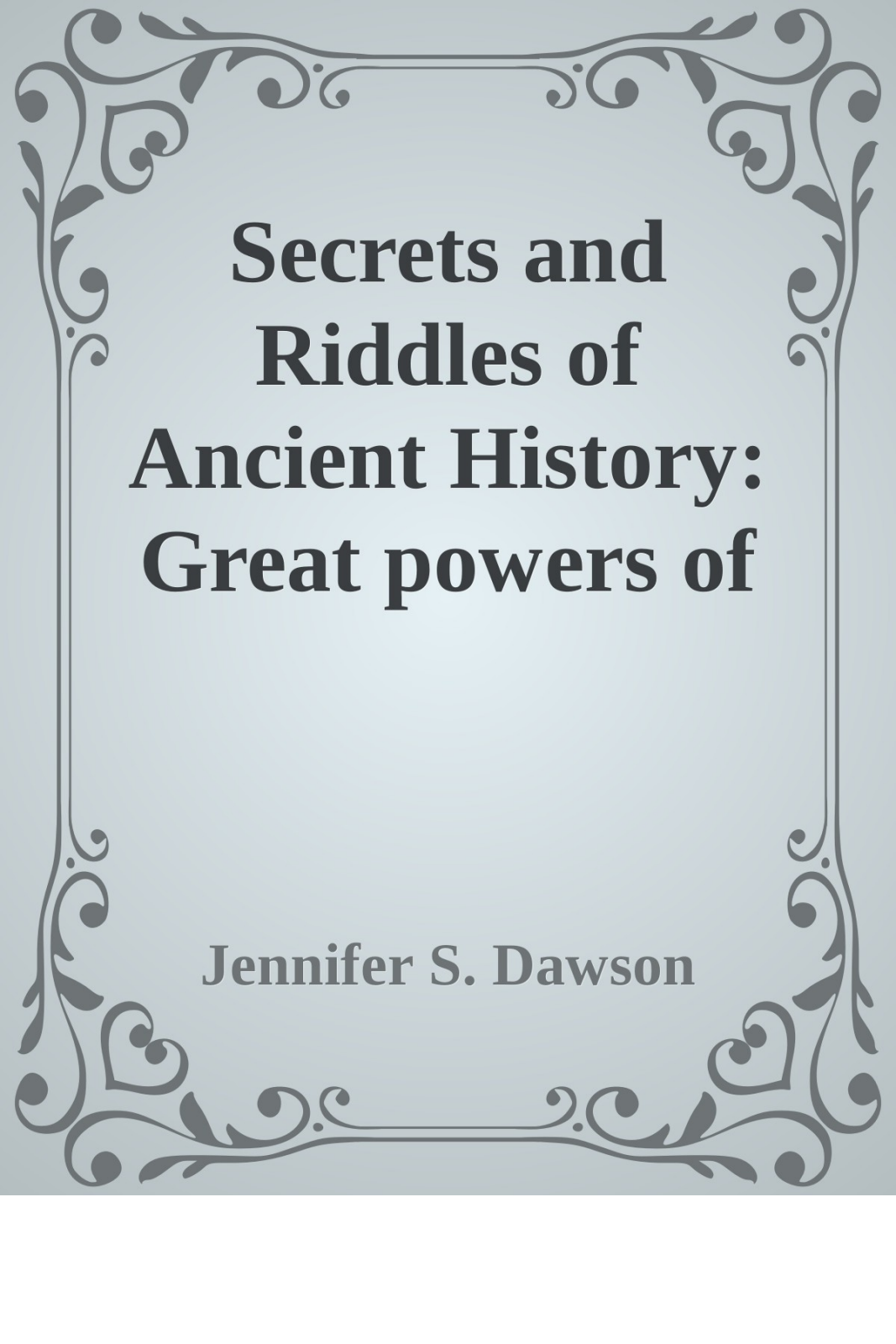


A decorative border with intricate floral and scrollwork patterns, rendered in a light gray color, framing the central text.

# **Secrets and Riddles of Ancient History: Great powers of**

**Jennifer S. Dawson**

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## **GREAT POWES OF FORGOTTEN WORLDS**



# **Secrets and Riddles of Ancient History**

**Jennifer S. Dawson**

# **Secrets and Riddles of Ancient History**

**Great powers of forgotten worlds**

**Jennifer S. Dawson**

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Modern scientists make the most interesting discoveries that lift the veil of secrecy over ancient civilizations and allow them to penetrate the little-known depths of history.

Comparing the past with the present, we trace the historical parallels and begin to understand the laws of world order. It is from traveling to historical places that knowledge of the world begins, leading to the knowledge of oneself...

We begin with the questions: who left us with the ancient pyramids and artifacts? Why scientists still cannot explain their origin? Who destroyed the cities of the gods? What secrets did ancient civilizations try to hide from descendants? And approaching the understanding of who we are, where and where we go from? What

fate awaits humanity? Are we able to consciously change our lives?

We will try to answer some of the questions posed in this book.

**Content:**

**Pompey - thunderstorm filibusters**

**Tomb of Genghis Khan**

**Cross of the Apostle Andrew**

**Ancient Persia - the greatest of all known civilizations**

**List of Sumerian kings**

**Atlantis: The Paradoxical Version**

**The civilization of the Indians Mochica**

**Bruce Lee: the star of the century**

**Mysteries of the biography of Alexander the Great**

**The Secret of the Amber Room**

**Who are the Amazons?**

**Wizards of Ancient Egypt**

**Ancient metallurgy**

**Warlock on the papal throne**

**Adam's Bridge and the City of Krishna**

**The oldest civilization of Iran. Elam**

**Ancient Mesopotamia. Population**

**The mystery of the disappearance of mammoths**

**Secrets of Ancient Egypt**

**Stalin's personal sorcerers**

**Where have the giants gone?**

*Unfortunately, English is not the author's native language. All errors and inaccuracies in the book remain on his conscience.*

**Pompey - thunderstorm filibusters**



Gnaeus Pompey, of course, is best known to all as a politician and military leader who fought on the land. But he showed his commanding and organizational talents at sea. After all, at a certain stage of history, he managed to rid Rome of such a misfortune as pirates. The trouble was so serious that because of it, the Eternal City risked being left without bread.

### **The young years of Pompey the Great**

Gnaeus Pompey was born in 106 BC. e. His father, Strabo, also a gifted commander, the people did not like for greed. Pompey himself, on the contrary, aroused the most sincere sympathies of the Romans with his modest lifestyle, honesty and friendliness. His youth came in a series of fierce civil wars, in which he had already managed to display his leadership talents. Once, for example, Pompey, together with his father, marched against Lucius Quinctius's troops. An uprising of warriors happened in their camp, and Gnaeus was able to save Strabo.

Then for a while Pompey retired to his estate. As soon as Lucius Cornelius Sulla entered the struggle for power, he returned to Italy after the victory over Mithridates VI Eupator, 23-year-old Gnaeus Pompey became a supporter of Sulla, he himself gathered three legions and went with them to his camp, raising the people against dictator Sulla. At the meeting, Sulla rendered unprecedented honors to the young commander and even called him the emperor, a title which he stubbornly sought.

Becoming the ruler of Rome, Sulla sent Pompey with an army to Sicily, near which fleeing Sulla was fleeing. Pompey conquered the island, captured the former dictator and ordered his execution. Meanwhile, the Senate and Sulla ordered him to go to North Africa, where Sulla collected troops from opponents of Sulla. Pompey,

with 120 warships and 800 loaded with weapons, food and fighting vehicles, led by six legions of transport, went there. With all determination, he defeated the 20-thousand army of the enemy and subordinated the rebellious African provinces to Roman power. Sulla arranged for him a pompous meeting at the walls of Rome and approved the nickname Great given to Pompey.

## **Defeat the pirates**

The death of Sulla caused another outbreak of civil wars. In the meantime, the Romans were engaged in mutual feuds, piracy flourished in the Black and Mediterranean seas. Sea robbers were not limited to the seizure of ships and plundered the islands and coastal cities. In many places they organized anchorages and watchtowers. High-speed and richly decorated pirate ships have become a real threat to the seaside states subject to Rome. Over a thousand ships of the corsairs looted about 400 cities. Pirates, many of whom served with Mithridates, especially hated the Romans, and therefore robbed their coastal estates, took hostage officials, drowned prisoners at sea.

The last straw that broke the patience was the rise in food prices in Rome, caused by these atrocities. Residents of the Eternal City, fearing hunger, instructed Pompey the Great to cleanse the seas of this scourge. Fulfilling the order, the commander was able to show his talent at sea.

Gambinius, Pompey's friend, introduced a special bill. According to him, in 67 BC the commander received extraordinary powers from the Senate for three years that would enable him to cope with piracy in the Mediterranean, Marmara and Black Seas. A fifty-mile coastline, as well as enormous forces and means, passed into his unlimited disposal. All Roman officials and rulers of the allied states were required to execute any of his orders.

The people's assembly approved the bill, and Pompey secured additional regulations that allowed him to equip 500 ships and recruit 120,000 heavy infantry and 5,000 horsemen. To help him, 24 senators were detached as subordinates and quaestors (officials). Soon, food prices began to fall. People believed that this was caused only by the name of the commander.

Gaius Pompey divided the Mediterranean into 13 sectors. In each he placed a detachment of ships, consisting mainly of light and maneuverable liburn (warships). Such a dense network allowed to

capture many pirate ships and take them to ports. At the same time, Pompey announced that he would save the lives of corsairs who voluntarily surrendered to captivity, and honestly kept his promise.

After clearing the Tyrrhenian and Libyan seas in forty days, as well as the waters near Corsica, Sardinia and Sicily, Pompey himself, with 60 ships, headed for Cilicia, where the surviving pirates gathered. The most powerful of them gathered there their families and treasures. In a naval battle, Pompey dealt with the robbers, the pirates preferred to surrender their well-fortified fortresses and islands. With a sea robbery, the commander did away in just three months. The Romans celebrated Pompey with tables (boards) in their hands, and they were told that he had attacked 1000 fortresses, 900 cities, captured 800 ships and replenished the city treasury with a huge amount.

### **Chasing Mithridates**

Having dealt with the threat in the Mediterranean, Pompey distributed a fleet to protect the sea between Phenicia and Bosphorus, while at the head of the army he set off against Mithridates VI, king of Pontus on the southern coast of the Black Sea, whose lineage was an interlacing of the most distinguished Macedonian and Persian families. The ruler of Ponta, like Pompey, bore the nickname Great, but had a second one — Dionysus.

Defeating Mithridat, Pompey forced him to flee to Armenia. The Roman commander took advantage of the strife of the Armenian tsar with his son, entered into this country and subjugated it. He continued to pursue Evpator through the lands of the Caucasian tribes, fought with the Albanians (they still lived in the Caucasus, and moved to the territory of modern Albania in the Balkans much later, in the era of the Great Migration,) a little before reaching the Caspian Sea.

Then Pompey marched with the army to Parthia and intended to go to the Red Sea. The fleet for the blockade of Mithridates, the commander left off the shores of Bosphorus, and merchant courts on pain of death were forbidden to pass through barriers. The commander conquered Syria and Judea. In the new possessions, he was recognized every time as a just supreme judge. Meanwhile, Mithridates, against whom his son Farnak spoke, committed suicide. For some reason, when he took poison, he did not act, and the Bosphor king asked his Gaul bodyguard to kill himself with a sword.



In Rome they began to fear that the victorious army would put Pompey on the throne. However, having arrived home, the commander disbanded the legions even before his third triumph. Learning of this, the Romans enthusiastically met Pompey and laid upon him the responsibility for supplying the city with bread. The victor sent his legates to the provinces and collected a large quantity of bread in Sicily, Sardinia and Africa. When he intended to go to sea with ships laden with grain, a strong storm broke out. Helmsmen did not dare to sail. Pompey was the first to board one of the ships, saying, "I need to sail, but life is not necessary at all!" Soon the shortage of bread in Rome was finally eliminated, and all the ships with food went through the sea, which helped to provide even the Roman allies.

### **Circumstances of death**

When the senate refused to approve Pompey's activities in the east and give veterans land, he was in 60 BC. e. united with Crassus and Caesar in the First Triumvirate. After the death of Crassus, the union, of course, fell apart. The civil wars began again, where the Pompey and Julius Caesar had already appeared as irreconcilable rivals. When in 49 BC Caesar crossed the Rubicon, Pompey had to run across the sea.

Having collected the troops, he began an armed confrontation. There were several battles, including sea battles, and not always luck was on the side of Caesar and his supporters.

The decisive battle took place in 48 BC under Farsala. The defeated Pompey and his closest friends had to flee to Egypt, where they hoped to form a new army. Learning of this, one of the guardians of the minor Pharaoh Ptolemy said at the council: "Having accepted Pompey, we will make a powerful enemy in the person of Caesar. In the event of failure, Pompey will never forgive and will retaliate. The best way is to take Pompey, and then kill him. In this way we will render a service to Caesar, and Pompey will no longer have to fear: after all, the dead do not bite. " So the Egyptians did.

When Pompey was ferrying from a ship in a small boat, she had barely reached the shore, the Roman centurion who had once served him thrust a sword to the commander in the back. Then the killers cut off Pompey's head and threw the body into the sea. It happened on September 29, 48 BC. On the eve of Pompey turned 58 years old. Caesar, who soon arrived in Egypt, did not even want to look at the severed head and ordered the execution of the murderers.

## Tomb of Genghis Khan



Peking media reported sensational news. It says that Chinese archaeologists have made a unique discovery: they discovered the grave of the legendary warlord and founder of the Mongol Empire, Genghis Khan.

The site of the last refuge of Genghis Khan has been the object of search and controversy for scientists and treasure hunters around the world for several centuries. But if Mongolian specialists and people believe that the grave of their great ancestor is somewhere in the highlands north of Ulan Bator (according to legend, he was buried on Burhan-Khaldun Mountain), then their Chinese colleagues claim that they found the grave another place.

A member of the search expedition and the head of the historical museum in Urumqi, Professor Tsan Hu, claims that a real burial place for the legendary commander and conqueror has finally been found. He especially noted that the grave was found near the Mongolian-Chinese border at the foot of the Altai Mountains in China. By the way, Chinese scientists in recent years stubbornly insisted that the tomb of Genghis Khan should be located in this area, where he repeatedly led the way of his numerous armies.

Genghis Khan died in 1227 during a campaign on the country of the Tangut Xi Xia. There are several versions of his death. According to one of them - the commander fell from his horse during a battue hunt for wild horses. His horse was scared of something and dashed to the side, and the Khan fell to the ground. After that, the old emperor felt bad. His commanders wanted to halt the conquest and return home, but Genghis Khan insisted on its continuation. And even before his death, he demanded that the fact of his death be carefully hidden

until the final victory over the Tangut.

According to other versions, Khan died from being wounded by an arrow (as Marco Polo believed) and even from a lightning strike (this version was followed by Plano Carpini). And according to a common Mongolian legend, Genghis Khan died of a wound inflicted by the Tangut Khans, a beautiful woman called Kyurbeldishin-Khatun, who spent the only wedding night with Genghis Khan. She was specially sent by the Tangut king Shidurkho-Hagan, distinguished by cunning and cunning. According to this legend, the beauty bit the khan in the neck, injuring the carotid artery, and he died from blood loss.

However, all scientists agree that the death of Khan came in 1227 and was not natural.

Genghis Khan died in a traveling environment. The head of the largest of the states of the world, who occupied 4/5 of the Old World, the lord of about 500 million souls, the owner of untold riches, until the end of his days was alien to luxury and excesses. After the conquest of Central Asia, his commanders acquired beautiful Turkish chainmail and Damascus blades, but Genghis Khan himself, despite being an ardent lover of weapons, did not follow their example in principle and remained alien to Muslim luxury. He continued to wear nomad clothes, adhered to the old customs and bequeathed to his people not to change these customs in order to avoid the corrupting influence on the customs of the Chinese and Muslim cultures.

His commanders did everything possible to give the dust and soul of their master to enjoy eternity in perfect peace. The place of his burial was kept in the strictest confidence. The grave was trampled down, comparing to the ground, more than a thousand horses. 2000 people took part in the funeral process. Immediately after the ceremony, all of them were hacked to pieces by 800 horse guards from the Khan's army. But even these 800 warriors lived no more than a day: they were soon executed to keep the burial place secret. Then special patrols were sent out, which killed everyone they found in nearby areas.

In 1990, after the collapse of the USSR - a great friend of the Mongolian people - American and Japanese expeditions rushed into Mongolia with shoals, the purpose of which was to find the tomb of Genghis Khan. The only condition on the part of the Mongolian government for archaeologists was "not to disturb the ashes of their

great ancestor." Expeditions spent millions of dollars searching for this burial, but their efforts were in vain.

In addition to the purely scientific interest in the burial of the legendary military leader, the Chinese have some political interest in the revered Mongolian emperor as a holy one: Beijing thus wants to show its neighbor who is the true and undivided leader in this region. True, such "manners" can cause a sharply negative reaction in Mongolia, but China is not afraid of it now.

In addition, there is no doubt that the burial of the Khan gives its discoverers invaluable historical values, gold and silver jewelry, and precious stones. According to the most skeptical assumptions, this entire fount is worth millions and millions of dollars.

True, there are contradictions. Back in 1950, a mausoleum was built in China, where, according to the Chinese, the ashes of the great Genghis Khan, which was allegedly found in the northern province of Qinghai, are kept. But Professor Cang Hu, one of the discoverers of the tomb of Genghis Khan, assures the world that the ashes kept in the Chinese mausoleum cannot belong to the khan.

Now it remains only to expect the results of a thorough scientific examination. If this burial really harbors the ashes and treasures of Genghis Khan, then such a discovery can be considered the greatest discovery of the millennium.

## **Cross of the Apostle Andrew**

The name of the Apostle Andrew the First-Called confessing the Orthodox faith is inextricably linked with the Baptism of Russia.

However, in the first centuries of the adoption of Christianity by Russia, the image of the Apostle Andrew was not at all so popular. But in the reign of Ivan the Terrible, this not the most famous apostle was elevated to the rank of the baptist of Russia, and a century later, to the rank of heavenly patron of the Russian state. Why, of all the gospel apostles, was Andrei given such an honor?

The Gospels pay tribute to the Apostle Andrew, but very little information is reported about his life.

### **Brother's shadow**

It is known that Andrew was one of the disciples of John the Baptist, who announced the coming of the Messiah. Andrew shared the teachings of John that the Savior would bring redemption to people through his own martyr's death on the cross.

And when Jesus came to the Lake of Galilee, he saw fishermen there - brothers Andrew and Simon. It was Andrei who recognized the Son of God in a stranger.

Jesus said to the brothers: "Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men." The brothers joined Jesus because Andrew remembered well the words of John the Baptist. He immediately responded to the call of Jesus with all his heart, believed him, therefore Christians call him the First-Called.

In the early days of his travels with Jesus, Andrew sought to help Jesus in every way, even pointing out moments when it was possible to perform miracles.

A famous parable with cooking for hundreds of listeners from two fish and five loaves is connected precisely with Andrei: he found the boy in the crowd with fish and bread. Known and feats of Andrew in the field of missionary work: he successfully preached the Word of God to the Greeks. But besides this, nothing more about Andrei is told. It is only known that the brothers Andrew and Simon were from Bethsaida, from where they came to the town of Capernaum on the Lake of Galilee. And if much is known about Simon, who became the apostle Peter, then Andrew is always mentioned only as his brother.

"Not holy" addition

Basically, the fate of Andrew is told in the living Christian literature, which, by and large, is a collection of myths and legends of Christianity.

She reports that Andrew was present at the crucifixion and ascension of Jesus Christ, and on the day of Pentecost was filled, like the rest of the apostles, of the Holy Spirit.

On this day, the apostles divided between the earthly world and spheres of influence. Andrei got lands around the Black Sea - in the south, east and north.

All these lands were inhabited by pagans, many of which were still in a wild state. And Andrew the First-Called made four trips, converting the pagan nations to the Christian faith. In his travels, he visited the lands of the Black Sea, where there were several Greek cities. The pagans poorly greeted the Christian preacher. He was constantly beaten with stones, expelled, even put in a dungeon. And in the town of Sinop, Andrei was even tortured. But he survived, having passed through the lands of Alans, Abbasks, zigov, visited Abkhazia, Georgia and the Bosporus, reached the city of Byzantium, where he founded a church and ordained one of the bishops. According to the Lives, he performed miracles everywhere and even raised the dead, and more than once.

Once he went with a sermon to the country of anthropophages, that is, cannibals, where the Apostle Matthew was sitting in prison. He freed Matthew, and converted cannibals to Christianity. In general, it was very difficult to find mutual understanding with the barbarians, it was necessary to work wonders all the time - either to grow a crop in a few hours, or to courageously remove an absolutely naked woman from the road, not yielding to temptation.

The legendary wanderings of the Apostle Andrew took him far to the east. Although in reality, the apostle did not go further than the Black Sea coast. He died within the region allocated to him - in the town of Patras, where the residents were not happy with the new faith. The head of the city Roman governor Egeat openly accused the apostle of the destruction of ancient temples. As a result of the dispute over faith, Egeat ordered the crucifixion of Andrew on an oblique cross. Thus ended the earthly life of the Apostle Andrew, and he went to his Master to heaven.

### **Scythian journey**

In the third travel, Apostle Andrew visited Scythia, that is, the land north of the Black Sea coast.

In the Northern Pontic since the beginning of the Greek colonization there were several civilized cities - Panticapaeum, Theodosius, and Chersonese, whose population was either Greek or mixed.

And in the original living texts of the Apostle Andrew did not climb to the north. But as time passed, more and more pagan nations adopted Christianity. As the boundaries of the Christian world

expanded, the boundaries of the Apostle Andrew began to expand.

When Russia received its Orthodoxy from Byzantium, the chroniclers still remembered that "the apostles did not go to Russia." But in 1116, Vladimir Monomakh ordered the following text to be included in the Tale of Bygone Years: "When Andrei taught at Sinop and arrived in Korsun, he learned that not far from Korsun was the mouth of the Dnieper and went to the mouth of the Dnieper and from there went up the Dnieper. And it happened so that he came and stopped under the mountains on the shore.

And in the morning he got up and told his disciples with him: "Do you see these mountains? The grace of God will shine forth on these mountains, there will be a great city and God will raise many churches. " And he went up to these mountains, blessed them, and put up a cross, and prayed to God, and came down from this mountain, where Kiev later arose.

And then he arrived at the Slovenes, where Novgorod now stands, and went on to the country of the Vikings. " Thus, at the behest of the Kiev prince, the Apostle Andrew blessed the very earth for the erection of the capital city of Kiev! Further more. There is a very long distance between Kiev and Novgorod. Therefore, it became necessary to fill the journey of the apostle through the wild lands of the East European Plain of the first century with easily recognizable details. This decision was literally brilliant.

So, in the Novgorod lands, the apostle saw a Russian bathhouse and naked steamed people, sighing from the shore into the reservoirs! The apostle was very surprised by the enthusiasm of the barbarians lashing themselves with young green branches and pouring kvass. However, having reached Novgorod, the apostle also visited the holy island of Valaam on Ladoga, which also drew crosses in advance, and not just wooden, but stone!

Allegedly, the apostle destroyed the temples of Veles and Perun, and instantly converted the pagan priests into the true faith. From the short mention of Andrei's Scythian journey, Russian myth-makers made an entire novel with reference to the most significant cities and monasteries in the future. In later legends, the apostle even designated the places of future churches: in the 16th century, a legend appeared about the construction of St. Andrew's Church in the village of Gruzino, the Apostle's forethought. Allegedly, when he left the borders of Veliky Novgorod and went down the Volkhov, he plunged his rod

into the ground, and since then this place became known as the Georgian. It was there that St. Andrew's Church was erected, and this miraculous rod from an unknown tree was kept in it.

But if myths and legends are not to be believed, then it becomes clear that the Apostle Andrei, as a historical figure, could not have visited the lands that were so far north from the Black Sea. First, it would not be possible even for such an ascetic! Secondly, in the I century it simply did not make the slightest sense - to the north of this sea there lived tribes so wild that even the legendary anthropophages with their dungeons would seem to the apostle as civilized Latins. He consoles only that it was not we alone who decided to attract the apostle to national history.

## **Ancient Persia - the greatest of all known civilizations**

Ancient Persia, the greatest known earthly civilization, occupied territories from the southern foothills of the Urals, the Volga and the Black Sea steppes and the Indian Ocean. Historians managed to prove that this most powerful of the states reached its highest peak in the era of the reign of the kings of the Achemenidpa dynasty in 558-330 BC shortly after King Cyrus II the Great became the ruler of those places.

### **Creed**

Primary belief of the ancient Persians in the "gentlemen of the wise" Ahura Mazda was the teaching of the prophet Zoroaster (Zarathushtra), who lived in the VII-VI centuries BC. e. From his views in ancient Persia, the belief was born in Ahura Mazda, "wise men and gentlemen," and the gods subordinate to him, called upon to help the Supreme Theologian.

Iranian rulers Cyrus, Darius and others tolerated the religions of the peoples they conquered. At the same time, they worshiped the sacred fire, which was kindled in specially constructed sanctuary towers - chortahs. The ancient Persians also worshiped winged bulls, horses and some wild animals. In addition, they believed in the existence of the mythical Shah Jamshid, who possessed an amazing cup, which reflected everything that is happening in the world. At any moment, Shah Jamshid could find out where and what was going on.



One of the heritages of Darius I was the construction of the "royal road" with a length of 2,700 kilometers! If we consider that most of it with more than a hundred postal stations was laid in mountainous and semi-desert areas, there is no doubt that taxes from the conquered countries collected by satraps (governors of the king) were sent to the treasury without any delays. The remains of this path have survived to this day, and if you follow this route from Tehran to Baghdad, then in one of the mountainous areas you can see a huge rock, on which at a height of about 152 meters from the ground you can clearly see huge bas-reliefs and some letters.

Scientists have long figured out the bas-reliefs: the unknown stonecutters carved in the stone nine captive kings with their hands tied and a noose around their necks, and the tenth Darius tramples on their feet. Thanks to the efforts of the English archaeologist G. Rawlinson, I was able to read an ancient inscription there, made in three languages - Persian, Elam, and Babylonian. On the "page" of a stone book with a width of 8 meters and a height of 18 meters it tells of the acts of Darius I. One of them - the construction of one of its luxurious palaces - says: "The mountain cedar tree was brought from Lebanon, gold from Sard and from Bactria, lyapis gem - azure and carnelian from Sogdiana, blue gem - turquoise from Khorezm, silver and bronze from Egypt.

The masters who cut the stone were the Medes and the Ionians, the goldsmiths were the Medes and the Egyptians, the people who made the brick were the Babylonians. "This record alone is enough to understand how rich and powerful the Achaemenid was (King Darius I. Unsurprisingly that the capital of ancient Persia, Parsa Stakhra, which the Greeks called Persepolis, was also fabulously rich.

### **Paradise abode**

The city of Persepolis was founded by Darius in the area of Pars in 518 BC the main construction was carried out between 520 and 460 years. The white-stone city was erected on the plain of Merv-Desht, and nature itself was emphasized by its beauty — the black basalt mountains of Mercy, which approached the valley from the north and south. For more than half a century, night and day, thousands of slaves of different nationalities built the capital, Persian kings.

On a powerful podium foundation with a height of up to 20

meters, 15 magnificent buildings were erected, of which the Grand Hall was the most luxurious — Amadah, Throne Hall, Xerxes Gate, Harem, Treasury, and a number of other rooms, including housing for the garrison, room service and visiting guests. Diodorus Sicily, who lived about 90-21 years BC the author of the famous Historical Library, wrote about Persepolis in one of his 40 books: "The city built was the richest of all existing under the sun. The private houses of even ordinary people were comfortable, furnished with all kinds of furniture and decorated with various fabrics."

The entrance to the palace was decorated in the form of the Propylae of Xerxes (Gate of Xerxes), which are 17-meter-tall figures of winged bulls, facing inward and outward in pairs. One pair of bulls had human bearded heads in tiaras. At the entrance the guests were struck by the inscription of Xerxes: "With the help of Ahura Mazda, I made this gate for all countries. Many other beautiful buildings were erected here in Pars, I built them and my father (Darius) built them. And what was built was beautiful. "

Wide stone staircases, decorated with bas-reliefs on religious and mystical themes, as well as scenes from the life of the Persian kings, led to the podium and further to the reception hall of the palace - Apadan, whose area was 4,000 square meters! The hall was decorated with 72 columns with a height of 18.5 meters. From the hall on special staircases on a chariot drawn by eight horses, the king could climb to meet the sun on one of the main holidays of the empire - on the Day of the Vernal Equinox, celebrated as the New Year.

Unfortunately, not much remained from the Apadan Hall. Its walls were decorated with bas-reliefs depicting warriors from the king's guard and people carrying gifts to the throne. The doorway was decorated with carved images of royal victories in battles. Stonecutters performed their work so masterly that those who admire the bas-reliefs did not even have a shadow of a doubt about the king's divine origin.

It is difficult to say exactly what treasures the kings of the Achaemenid dynasties possessed and how many wives they had in the royal harems. However, it is known that innumerable riches were stored in the royal treasury - skillfully made objects of gold, silver and precious stones. And no wonder: after the capture of Persepolis by the troops of Alexander of Macedon in 330 BC. e. It took three thousand camels and ten thousand mules (!) in order to remove the treasury of the rulers of Iran. Today, many of these priceless items are kept in

museums around the world.

## **List of Sumerian kings**

Modern archeology knows many finds, the meaning and significance of which have not yet been solved and are unlikely to be understood in the near future. For example, ancient Indian manuscripts, which describe in detail something similar to the ships for flying into near space or nuclear explosions. Or difficult to explain the pictures on the walls of ancient Egyptian tombs. One of these mysterious artifacts was and remains the so-called list of Sumerian kings.

The Sumerians are the first highly developed human civilizations known to modern science. Their cities were located between the Tigris and Euphrates rivers. Now it is south of Iraq from Baghdad to the Persian Gulf.

It was found that by the 3rd millennium BC, as part of the civilization of Sumer, there were at least 12 separate city-states: Kish, Uruk, Ur, Sippar, Akshak, Larak, Nippur, Adab, Umma, Lagash, Bad Tiber and Lars. And in each city the population worshiped their gods. Temples dedicated to them were installed there.

### **Mysterious prism**

Initially, as stated in ancient sources, the power of the Sumerians belonged to the people. That is, they gave the world a prototype of modern democracy. But then the Sumerians had an institution of royal power. That's all that modern humanity knew about the Sumerians until 1906.

But that year a striking discovery was made - a "royal list" of this ancient civilization was found. Or rather, a collection of ancient texts, testifying that far from everything that we are accustomed to be considered myths is really fiction.

The discovery was made by an American archaeologist of German origin, Herman Hilprecht. In the place where the ancient Sumerian city of Nippur was located, the scientist found a fragment of the list of rulers of the Sumerian state. This attracted the interest of scientists from around the world to the theme of the Sumerians.

After the discovery of Hilprecht by other researchers, 18 more artifacts were found that contain some or all of the same text. The four-sided ceramic prism about 20 centimeters high, which was brought to light in 1922, became the most significant discovery in this direction.

By the name of its discoverer, it is called Veld Blundell prism. Experts found that the age of the clay manuscript is about 4 thousand years. All four faces of the prism are filled with cuneiform in two columns. In the center there is a hole where, as expected, a wooden rod was inserted so that the prism could be rotated and read each of the faces. Nowadays, the famous artifact is kept in the cuneiform collection of the Ashmole Museum in Oxford.

After all the inscriptions could be deciphered, it turned out that the list of the rulers of Sumer includes not just a list of names. It described the Flood and the salvation of Noah, and many other events known to us by the Old Testament.

Scientists have concluded that the Veld Blundell prism and the rest of the cuneiform text are all lists from some common source, which described in detail the history of the Sumerians civilization.

### **Secrets of longevity**

The list of rulers begins with the antediluvian times and ends with the 14th ruler of the Yixing dynasty (about 1763-1753 BC). Of course, the greatest interest was caused by the names of those kings who ruled Sumer before the Flood (according to modern views, such a global catastrophe could really have befallen our planet around 8122 BC).

The first thing that struck scientists - the terms of the reign of each of the ancient rulers. Here are some translated fragments of cuneiform adapted to the modern language: "Aulim reigned 28,800 years as king; Alalgar ruled for 36,000 years - two kings ruled for 64,800 years. Eridu was abandoned, (and) the throne was moved to Bad Tiber. "

In total, according to ancient sources, the kings of the antediluvian period were ruled for a total of 241,200 years. Several circumstances have forced modern scientists to doubt the veracity of these records. First, the incredibly long terms of each of the kings. And secondly - the fact that these characters are the heroes of the ancient

## Sumerian and Babylonian legends and epics.

However, now there are researchers who find an explanation for these circumstances. For example, there is a theory that these figures are a kind of hyperbole and express the power, triumph or importance of the persons to whom they relate.

For example, in ancient Egypt, the phrase "He died at the age of 110 years" referred to those who lived life to the full and made an important contribution to the life of society. The same could be with the Sumerian ancient kings. With such "terms", historians have rewarded their rulers for their unlimited power and importance of what they did for the state.

By the way, here lies another mystery of the Sumerian "royal roster". The fact is that after the flood, which is mentioned there as a real historical event, the terms of rule of the Sumerian kings began to be reduced, and the last of them already ruled for quite real "human" periods. Scientists have not yet found a reasonable explanation for this.

True, there is another hypothesis that explains the inconsistencies of dates. It was launched in 1993 and consists in the fact that the Sumerians had a different system of chronology, which led to such fantastic terms. But then again - it does not explain why the "after the flood" dates became quite real. These circumstances are still waiting for their researchers.

### **According to Scripture**

Another feature that makes the Sumerian lists unique and extraordinarily valuable for modern science is that they indirectly confirm the truth of the events described in the Old Testament. For example, in the Book of Genesis tells about the "great flood" and about Noah's efforts to save the representatives of the human race and animals - "every creature on a pair."

The Sumerian cuneiform also mentions that there was a great flood on Earth, which washed away many cities. Moreover, it is mentioned as a real, self-evident fact. Here is another quote from ancient sources, adapted for modern perception: "(Total) in eight cities eight kings ruled for 241,200 years. Then the flood washed away (the country). After the flood washed away (the country) and the kingdom was sent down from heaven (the second time), Kish

became the seat of the throne. ”

Based on the Sumerian cuneiform, you can try to tentatively set the date of the biblical flood. If we compare the time of the rule of the antediluvian dynasties and the dates of construction of the Sumerian cities, we can conclude that "water washed away the earth" about 12 thousand years before Christ.

There are other similarities with the Old Testament in the sources of the ancient civilization. In particular, it also mentions the "first man" (a type of the biblical Adam) and tells about the sins he committed and this angered the gods. There are indirect references to the sad history of Sodom and Gomorrah, cities that were destroyed by God for the sinfulness of their inhabitants.

True, it describes a slightly different punishment for sins. If the biblical Sodom and Gomorrah were destroyed by "heavenly fire", then the Sumerian sinners were killed and their cities were destroyed by "creatures coming down from the mountains and knowing no mercy."

Of course, in the Sumerian lists there is not and cannot be a textual coincidence with biblical texts. This is understandable - the Bible has been repeatedly translated, rewritten, corrected and supplemented. It is safe to say that its current text is very different from the real events that are described there.

But what is important is that both in the Old Testament and in the Sumerian "list of kings" the same well-known episodes of the development of human civilization are mentioned. That is what makes the finds of Hilprecht and his followers so significant to humanity.

In conclusion, I want to emphasize this. Scientists still do not have a common opinion as to whether the Sumerian lists are an exact reflection of historical events or it is still a mixture of legends, fairy tales and a real story. But, as you know, science does not stand still. It is possible that in the future other artifacts will be found that will complement or disprove the Sumerian "list of kings".

## **Atlantis: The Paradoxical Version**

The starting point in the Rand Flem-Ata hypothesis was the same assumption that Plato's geographical terminology did not match current designations. This assumption untied the hands of the

researcher, and he did a little experiment. He took off the usual school globe from the axis and began to turn it from itself to the north. He stopped the globe at that moment when Antarctica appeared before his eyes, that is, the South Pole appeared to be at the center of the world.

Having carefully considered the picture on the globe, Rand Flem-At made a number of interesting conclusions that are directly related to the problem of Atlantis.

The researcher took the original text of Plato and again read his very interesting place: "From it (that is, from the island of Atlantis) it was easy to move to other islands, and from them to the entire opposite continent that borders the TRUE ocean. After all, the sea is on this side of Gibraltar the strait is just a bay with a narrow passage into it. " Randa Flem-Ata could not help but be puzzled by the use of the word "bay" in relation to the Mediterranean by Plato. Only one thing could serve as an excuse for him: the "true ocean" was so great for Plato that the Mediterranean Sea seemed to be a small harbor compared to him!

Hardly for the role of "True Ocean" could claim the Atlantic Ocean, because it is, as you know, practically isolated from other oceans of the Earth by continents. But when you look at the "world" across the South Pole, the Atlantic, Pacific and Indian oceans merge together, and perhaps they form the very "true ocean" of Plato? And the continents bordering on this view "true ocean", much more expressive here than in the Atlantic!

Readers must have already guessed where Rand Flem-At was driving: he places the legendary Atlantis in ... Antarctica! This option, it seems, no one has yet proposed. And interestingly, the researcher finds new arguments in favor of his amazing assumption.

Plato reports that Atlantis was larger in territory than "Libya and Asia combined." Under

Libya philosopher meant North Africa, and Asia considered areas that we call the Middle East. Libya and Asia "combined", according to Flem-Ata, are slightly larger than the current United States. Approximately the same ratio is the size of Antarctica (slightly reduced due to later formations) and the United States. Further, Plato adds that Atlantis was a mountainous island and towered "high above sea level." And in this respect, the analogy with Antarctica is complete

(it rises almost 2000 meters above sea level).

In 1665, German Jesuit Athanasius Kircher released a multipage work, including a reproduction of the ancient Egyptian map of Atlantis. A comparison of the configuration of the island with the outlines of Antarctica, which it was 12,000 years ago, shows, according to Flem-At, their striking similarity. And although on the Egyptian map Atlantis is placed in the Atlantic Ocean, Flem-At considers this a mistake, which Plato supposedly fell into.

Traditionally it was believed that Antarctica was covered with ice for at least 50 to 60 million years. But in 1990, geologists found frozen remains of woody forest aged 2–3 million years frozen into ice 250 miles from the South Pole! On the famous map of the Turkish admiral Piri Reis, created in 1513 on the basis of older maps, dating back to the! V century BC, Antarctica is depicted without beold!

On the map of Orontsius Phineus, compiled in 1531, we see mountain ranges and rivers in Antarctica, where there are now only glaciers. All this speaks of the ice-free Antarctica in the memory of mankind, which in those days in an incomprehensible way, having no aircraft and even less satellites, was able to make maps of the southern continent with outlines plotted only in the 20th century by seismic sounding of two-kilometer ice cover!

The cartographer Charles Hapgod found that the Piri Reis map contains at least 24 points adjusted to half a degree.

The Europeans could not achieve such precision before the famous travels of Captain Cook in the second half of the X / III century! For many years, Hapgod developed the idea of periodic displacements of the earth's crust (lithosphere), unrecognized by official science, floating on a more viscous layer (the asthenosphere) based on a solid mantle (a thick layer between the crust and the core of the Earth). And along with the bark "travel" and the pools of the oceans!

This idea was enthusiastically accepted by Albert Einstein and even wrote a preface to the first edition of Hapgod's book The Displacement of the Earth's Crust. Hapgod's hypothesis has a direct pole that remains in place, and under them the panorama simply changes. By analyzing climate change due to the displacement of the earth's crust, the author comes to the conclusion about the former warm climate in Antarctica. And this circumstance he writes into the



asset of his "Antarctic" version of the location of Atlantis.

And finally, Hapgood refers to the Japanese emperor of antiquity, Darku, who in 681 AD ordered his chroniclers guild to put together the oldest myths of the Land of the Rising Sun. As a result, a whole book of myths and one relation to the problem of Atlantis were formed, for the sharp climatic changes on the planet are explained by the displacement of the Earth's crust without the need to allow the Earth axis to "swing", that is, the poles "wander".

In fact, according to Hapgood, one of them mentioned the times when the Earth was "very young" and the first inhabited country was called "Ono-Holodimma". And it was located ... not far from the pole. Hapgood is convinced: not far from the South Pole!

## **The civilization of the Indians Mochica**

At the heyday of the Roman Empire on the other side of the earth - the northern coast of Peru - an amazing and mysterious people created their own civilization. This people did not have a written language that would preserve its self-name. That is why scientists gave him the name of the Mochica, after the name of the river Moche, which flowed nearby.

Mochica lived in a despotic state: there existed social inequality in it, the ruling elite oppressed the masses of simple workers. Perhaps Mochica had construction conscription, like the "mite" among the Incas and the conscription among the peoples of Europe. Such a duty allowed the rulers in a short time to collect the necessary number of workers for state needs.

Amazing irrigation canals and aqueducts were built by the hands of ordinary moika. Little has survived to this day, but to imagine at least in part the scale of the ancient works of the Mochikan, one example is sufficient: one of the aqueducts at Askop reaches 15 meters in height and 1,400 meters in length.

In order to create the embankment along which it passes, Indian land reclamations carried over 783,000 cubic meters of land!

Thus, increasing the areas of land suitable for agricultural work, the Mochika processed farms much more than the modern Peruvian farmers. Their agronomical knowledge had an extremely high level:

not only did urine improve the quality of maize, beans, potatoes, peppers, tomatoes, but also brought new varieties ... Plus, they persistently and, I must say, successfully cultivated various wild plants.

## PYRAMID OF THE SUN AND MOON

The majestic cult metropolis in the valley of the River Moche became the center of the Mochik civilization. Its basis consists of two huge pyramids with buildings adjacent to them and a burial ground.

Pyramid of the Sun - Ouaca del Sol was the main cult center. It exceeds all buildings ever built on the Peruvian coast. 130 million of dried bricks in the sun were spent on the construction of Huaca del Sol. Its height reached 52 meters, and the size of the base was 228 by 136 meters.

The second pyramid - Huaca de Luna, the pyramid of the Moon - had a smaller size: 80 by 60 meters base, 21 meters in height. And she herself, and the surrounding complex of buildings was the residence of the ruler and the highest dignitaries, close to him.

The first to plunder the pyramid of the sun. The method chosen by the Spaniard Montalva in 1532 was, although original, barbaric. The robbers changed the course of the nearest river and directed it directly to the huaca. Water washed away one of the walls and opened the entrance to the ancient sanctuary. Mining exceeded all expectations. What constituted the objects found by the Spaniards is unknown, but they were estimated at 800 thousand ducats.

Since then, sacred sites have been systematically pillaged. However, something still manages to be rescued and explored, such as, for example, the gold burial of the "gentleman from Sipan", which in 1987 caused a sensation and is equal in its significance to the discovery of Tutankhamen's tomb.

## GOLDEN MASTERS

The blacksmiths and jewelers of the Peruvian Andes owned all the methods of processing precious metal, including casting by model and inlay. They knew how to silver, gild, subject metals to chemical treatment, changing their color and surface.

Incredibly, the ancient Indian masters could work with platinum

in the same way, but its melting point is almost twice as high as that required for smelting gold: it reaches 1,650 degrees Celsius! The "Enlightened" Spaniards considered platinum to be untreatable and, separating it from gold, were thrown away as unnecessary.

What did the jewelers of Europe work with? Hammers, anvils, blacksmith furs ... And the pendants achieved virtuosity with the help of the simplest tools. Blacksmith furs replaced pipes for them, through which several people simultaneously blew air, directing it to burning charcoal and raising its temperature to 980-1260°C.

Often, jewelry was made of gold alloy with platinum ... Unfortunately, a lot of uric jewelry was destroyed by the Spanish conquerors, who were interested only in the mass of gold.

The main decoration of the Urica nobility was a colorful headdress resembling a turban. Men wore cotton ponchos and gold discs decorated their ears. To the nobles, the legs were covered with black paint or soot up to the very knees - it could seem that they were wearing black socks. The soles of the Mochica sandals were made from the skin of a sea lion. Women went barefoot, wore only skirts, did not cover their heads and did not pierce their ears.

All these and many other details of the life of the urine became known to scientists and researchers thanks to ... ceramics. Were it not for all these shards, we probably would never have learned anything about this mysterious civilization.

The largest collection of original vessels was collected by members of the clan of Larco, who once owned a large part of the land owned by the Mochica. In the collection of the family – was over 60 thousand pottery.

In ceramics of Mochica, everything that lived and grew up on the northern Peruvian coast is displayed: flora, fauna, inhabitants, their occupations and lifestyle. People from portraits are joyful and sad; their faces express contempt and fear. Harvesting, ceremonies, healers, executions, wars — everything was reflected in the pottery of Mochica. And even a ghost. It was found singing and whistling shaped vessels and jugs animals.

## RIDDLE OF FALLEN FASOLIN

While other Indian nations had a letter and original ways of

recording dates, perhaps already in the 1st millennium BC, the Peruvian Indians did not invent their own letters, except for a pile of nodular letters, which the Incas later used.

However, Rafael Larco Oile, the heir to the largest collection of pottery ceramics, who devoted most of his life to studying it, believes that the Pike people nevertheless had their own writing system, and a very original one. It consisted in the fact that signs or words were put on the beans-palyares using special engraving tools.

From these beans the message was composed, which the messenger delivered to the destination in a bag of llama leather. On many ceramic vessels of the urine can be found an image of mysterious runners with bags in their hands. Sometimes messengers were depicted with the body of a centipede or with bird wings.

The version of Larco is partly confirmed by the drawings, where the priests in fox robes arrange the messages from the beans in a certain order and, probably, read them. Finally, there are images in which a painted bean ... runs on its own. What could be more eloquent?

Unfortunately, Oile died in 1967, and his study of the signs on the beans-palyares remained unfinished. Other Peruvianists still have not come to a single conclusion regarding these figures. Some argue that it was a common gamble; others believe that the priests predicted the future for the beans.

Still others believe that the runners in general were participants in some agricultural ritual, such as crosses to the sacred pyramid. Maybe they are right. After all, after all, if Mochica really invented writing, then why was their successor not aware of the secrets of the "bean letter"? For example, the Incas?

## DEATH OF CIVILIZATION

Why is this brilliant culture so quickly faded away? Scientists have put forward several explanations. According to one of the versions, the Mochica state, weakened by continuous bloody wars, was conquered by the Bury mountain people. And it happened in the eighth century.

Another hypothesis was expressed by anthropologist Michelle Mosley. According to him, many natural disasters have struck the

Mochica. First, a terrible earthquake knocked out channels and caused landslides. Hurricane wind covered the cities with sand; torrential rains turned the country into a swamp.

The harvest died, the irrigation systems were clogged with earth, and the buildings of clay bricks were soaked. So the people of Mochica disappeared from the face of the earth...

## **Bruce Lee: the star of the century**

On July 21, 1973, all Hong Kong newspapers were published under the headings "Bruce Lee is dead!". Most of the readers initially did not believe the journalists, deciding that the newspapers write about the new film of the actor - "The Game of Death" - where the movie hero Bruce Lee dies. However, within a few hours, the sensational news was broadcast on radio and television ...

### **Hour of the Dragon**

The unexpected death of the legendary martial arts master, Hollywood stars, shook the whole world. Still would! After all, films with his participation were absolutely not similar to those that were shot before. In just a few years, Lee managed to create a fundamentally new kind of cinema and fly to the top of Olympus, forcing the whole world to admire him. Legends and myths about the life of the great master and rumors about his premeditated murder go to this day, and after almost four decades after his death it is very difficult to distinguish truth from fiction...

Until now, the majority of journalists and people close to the actor are sure that his death, which followed after taking an aspirin pill, cannot be caused by natural causes. Surprisingly, soon after the autopsy of the actor's body, an act of forensic examination disappeared, which could help shed light on the mystery of Lee's sudden death...

The police and the media have put forward several versions of the development of events and none of them has yet been refuted.

For example, Chinese astrologers believe that a person who was so unhappily born both in the year of the Dragon (1940), and even at the hour of the Dragon (between 6 and 8 am), lies a curse, and he is simply doomed to an early and most likely violent death. And the

events that preceded the birth of a future Hollywood star, as if Lee had predicted a short life ...

Before the birth of Bruce, the first in the family of a professional actor of the Chinese Xiu Theater, Li Hoi Chuen, and his wife, Grace, an American woman whose mother was Chinese and her father was German, a boy was born who died shortly after birth. According to Chinese beliefs, it was a bad omen (the boy's death was considered a greater misfortune than the girl's death), which meant that the spirits were angry with the family. In order for the evils to leave their home, the second child in the family certainly had to be a girl, and for safety net a young couple adopted another baby — a girl. Soon after Grace one more boy is born, and then another - Li Zhen Fan (Come back), whom the world will later recognize under the name Bruce Lee.

Thanks to his father's connections, the boy is already three months old in his first film, then a little older (at six and eight years old) gets new roles under the name of Li Xiao Long (Lee the Little Dragon), who is named by the director of the film company. It is under this unfortunate name for him (again, the Dragon!) That he will become known both in his homeland, in Hong Kong, and throughout Southeast Asia.

### **King of the street**

Bruce's childhood and youth were spent in Hong Kong, and when his rather puny and weak-looking peer began to offend his peers, he did everything to become the strongest and most agile. The young man wrote an individual training plan for himself, ran daily for 5 km and enrolled in a kung fu school. His first teacher later recalled that Li was the only student who was able to master the movements of the Tai Chi Chuan technique in just three days, whereas it usually takes several weeks.

Since then, he constantly trained, masterfully mastered the techniques of combat with and without weapons, and skillfully handled nunchucks. He later studied judo, jiu-jitsu and boxing.

Once, three adult gangsters began to bully him on the street. Bruce did not wait until he was attacked, and the first to strike. The attackers after a few seconds were on the ground, and then in the hospital.

To his misfortune, the teasers turned out to be members of the

ancient Chinese mafia organization - the triad, and according to its laws, Bruce Lee had to die for beating and insulting its members.

Saving his life, Lee flew the same day to Mother's homeland — in the USA — and settled in San Francisco, the city in which he was born. Then, in search of work, he moved to Seattle, where he found a job as a waiter. In parallel, he entered and brilliantly graduated from the Higher Technical School, and also studied Kung Fu and even opened his own small school of martial arts.

Lead a quiet life, perhaps the mafia would have forgotten about him, but the rumor about a popular kung-fu teacher began to spread more and more, and the triad, which had an extensive network in the US, easily figured out a novice master and suggested either to die or train militants Mafia and become a bodyguard of one of the leaders of the triad.

### Obey or die

Lee had a difficult choice ahead of him, but he proposed the mafia ... a third option. What the master has agreed with the triad is unknown, but after just a few months his career abruptly went uphill: Bruce is vied with each other for leading roles in movies, he shoots his own films, acting as a producer, and even returns openly to Hong Kong - it is cheaper and more convenient to shoot dangerous stunts.

It seems that the master has paid his whole life a tribute to the triad that gave money for his first films. But once the Little Dragon decided that he no longer needed the "guardianship" of the mafia, and, despite the hired security and the gun that the actor always carried with him, the triad still found a way to deal with the recalcitrant Li. Perhaps the fatal blow struck him hired by the mafia killer, who owns the technique of "delayed death" (after such a reception a person can die in a few months and even years from the moment of impact).

Two months before his tragic death, Bruce Lee worked out a trick on the set, which he could not do. A man suddenly came out of the crowd and offered a spectacular version of his performance. After his blow, Lee collapsed as if he was knocked down and lost consciousness. And when the Stranger came to his senses and the trace caught a cold ...

A similar incident occurred on a television show in which the actor took part. Then he also lost consciousness from the blow

inflicted by his opponent.

Police also expressed the hypothesis that the death of Bruce Lee lies on the conscience of the monks of Shaolin, who allegedly sentenced him to death because he revealed the secrets of kung-fu to Europeans. The elders considered this kind of martial art sacred, and people of other races it was not supposed to know. It was also believed that with the help of kung-fu a person should achieve harmony with himself, learn to love and respect his neighbors, but not earn money!

The versions about Bruce Lee's poisoning with an unknown poison were also being worked out (he too much profit from the film distribution of his films he drew from recognized film companies; in competition with Lee films, smaller film studios found themselves in a difficult position and were forced out of the market), and that he took drugs and died of an overdose (in fact, Bruce only occasionally allowed himself to eat a couple of Hashish cookies to relax), but the work in this direction did not bring any results.

### **The house that brings misfortune**

In China, Feng Shui teaching is very important, and therefore after the sudden death of the actor, his death was associated with a new house, which he bought a year before his death.

The area of Kowloon, where the house was located, means "Pond of nine dragons" (again, dragons!). It was built with violations of all the rules of Feng Shui, and its two previous owners had big financial problems and did not have good health. But Lee did not attach any importance to this. And it is absolutely in vain! As soon as his family (wife and two children) moved into a new home, troubles and misfortunes began to rain down! Bruce Lee, who had long become a legendary man, as if he had lost his taste for life, began to complain of headaches, weakness, and more and more often he expressed the idea that he would not live to his 33rd birthday.

The Feng Shui consultant, who was invited to inspect the house, was very dissatisfied with the location of the house and the surrounding landscape, and advised him to put a mirror figure on the roof of the house that would reflect any negative influences. Two days before the death of the actor, the figure fell and broke - it was pulled down from the roof by a suddenly flown typhoon.



Taking off in the latest movie titled "The Game of Death", Lee made another fatal mistake by refusing to change the name of the movie. But many stories are known when the actors who played roles in plays or films with "deadly" titles, soon died...

It seems that the question of why Bruce Lee died will remain open for a long time. And to lift the veil of mystery and intrigue over the story of the death of the legendary master of kung fu, "Stars of the Century" (this title was given to him in 2005, to the 100th anniversary of Chinese cinema), will succeed only if from whose home Lee was taken to the hospital would agree to tell the truth about what really happened on that fateful day...

## **Mysteries of the biography of Alexander the Great**

More than once Alexander of Macedon (356–323 BC) hinted to his comrades and subjects on his heavenly origin. About the fact that this may mean, we analyzed the amazing facts of the biography of the great commander.

### **SPHINX ON MOUNT ATON**

Even in our time, replete with all sorts of sensations, the project of a grandiose sculpture, which according to the idea of Alexander the Great was designed by his court architect Dinokrat, is amazing. The sculpture of a sitting Greek warrior was supposed to be turned into the entire famous Mount Athos, 2033 meters high, "obsessive" it from all sides in the same way as the sculptor does, working with a block of marble. The extraordinary complexity of this plan is visible at least from the fact that, according to the vision of the commander, a warrior should hold in his left hand ... a whole city with a population of 10 thousand people, and in the right hand a grandiose man-made mountain lake into which the waters of rivers would collect flowing down from a giant mountain.

Under the right hand of the warrior was to be located another city with a population of ten thousand people. As the Austrian architect and historian of architecture Fischer von Erlach (1656–1723), referring to ancient sources, Alexander ONLY considered such an architectural and sculptural ensemble Alexander considered "worthy of his greatness."

The project did not take place. He was not allowed to carry out, according to the same Austrian author, the commander himself, since "such a city would not have enough fields to provide food for the population."

Never in the history of Earth's civilization has a single ruler ever threatened such architectural accomplishments, although there are quite a few huge structures on our planet. This project, in my opinion, can only be compared with the famous "Martian face", shot in 1976 by the Viking-1 spacecraft. I recall the size of the "face" on the surface of Mars, presumably also hewn from a whole mountain. The length of the face from chin to hair is 1.5 km, width - 1.3 km, height - 0.5 km.

It is clear that the Martian object in all respects loses the creation of the Greek architect Dinokrat. After all, the height of the sculpture carved from Mount Athos, if the project of Alexander the Great was incarnated, would be four times more, not to mention that the Martian face is a rather primitive image, and it is still unknown whether it is the work of intelligent beings or natural mountain, the slope of which slightly resembles the face.

Dinokra's sculpture is full-figured! And in the image of a warrior everything had to be worked out, down to the smallest folds of clothing, facial features, muscles of the body, fingers and toes, parts of military equipment, etc.

What should be the civilization of the Greeks, if they swung at a similar plan! Is that the commander himself was really of unearthly origin and was counting on the help of some unknown forces. Be that as it may, Alexander the Great was definitely a unique person whose way of life is marked by such acts and wonders that have not been explained yet.

## MIRACLE BIRTH

Although the name of Alexander's father is well known - this is the king of Macedonia, Philip II, - the legends stubbornly attributed to Alexander the Great supernatural origin. However, it according to the priest of the temple of Amon, "Philip was not a mortal" either. And the Olympics, Alexander's mother, possessed the gift of clairvoyance and foresaw the great fate of her son, who conquered half the world, brightly gleaming and early extinct. As it is told in one legend, "on the eve of the night when the bride and groom were locked in marital peace, the Olympiad had a dream that a thunderclap sounded and

lightning struck her in the womb, and from this blow a strong fire flashed; the flames ran in all directions and then faded away. ”

There is also a story about how, having once entered the bedchamber for his wife, Philip saw on her bed a huge serpent that stretched along the body of the queen. He thought that this was not a mere reptile, but someone who had reincarnated into a serpent, and that his wife was "connected with a higher being." Since then, he no longer shared with her bed. Therefore, the birth of Alexander from Philip can be questioned. It remains the option of his miraculous birth from the celestial being. In the legends, such a thought is carried out.

## DEDICATION

According to the chain of disciplic succession, Alexander the Great joined the secret knowledge of ancient Egypt, then considered the center of ancient wisdom. However, in this he followed in the footsteps of his earthly parents. The priests kept unique knowledge, inherited from the times preceding the Great Flood, when, as it is supposed, human civilization was at a higher level than in antiquity.

His tutor and teacher was Aristotle (384-322 BC), himself possessed secret knowledge. When Alexander learned that his mentor wrote a manuscript that expounded secret knowledge, he, despite his youth, reprimanded him for this: "You did wrong, promulgating a teaching intended only for oral teaching."

And to whom this "oral teaching" was meant, is clear: by some chosen ones, to whom the commander also belonged. If we take into account that Aristotle studied under the Egyptian priests, and Alexander the Great gained knowledge from Aristotle, then the latter was thus ordained a saint of the Ancient World. Diogenes Laertius claimed that the Egyptian priests kept records of knowledge going back to the past by 49 thousand years before Alexander the Great. The depth and singularity of this information can be understood from the following maxim, with which the dedicated countries of Osiris turned to Solon, one of the seven ancient Greek sages: "You Hellenes always remain children, and there is no old man among the Hellenes ..." the wisest and most knowledgeable of the Greeks.

It was with this baggage of secret teachings that Alexander the Great set off to conquer the world.

## MACEDONIAN COULD OPEN AMERICA

This also, by the way, could flow out of his secret knowledge, which he was informed by Aristotle during the lessons in Philip's palace. It is very likely that Alexander went to the Big World, knowing a great deal about him. He did this by deciding to test what the great philosopher of antiquity taught him, or, what is the same thing that priestly science knew. The owner of the secret knowledge should have been subject to the earth, the water element and heaven. And not in the figurative, but in the literal sense.

Hence, the seemingly inexplicable, not at all connected with conquests, the insatiable thirst of the commander to try himself in these three elements.

He conquered the earth, conquering the Peloponnese, Egypt, Persia, Arabia, Parthia, the Caucasus, Central Asia, part of Scythia and India, that is, a huge part of the then inhabited world - Oikumena, at least in that part of it, which was known to the Greeks. But, conquering one kingdom after another, he stubbornly walked to some kind of earth's limit, believing that this "limit" was somewhere beyond India, in the east, where a certain Great Eastern Sea (Pacific Ocean?) Extends, which follow them further east, bring him back to Egypt! And he strove for this sea, some information about which the priests may have had.

Through Aristotle, Alexander learned about the sphericity of the Earth, that "antipodes" live on the opposite side of the planet (Aristotle's term), that is, people walking towards Europeans as if upside down. Probably represented the Macedonian and the approximate dimensions of the entire Earth, which even then was not a secret. The question involuntarily arises: was the great conqueror not looking for a way around the globe? Quite possible. And if he had found it, it would have been the path of discovery of America, but in the opposite direction from Columbus and almost 2 thousand years earlier. Is knowledge of such a sea road is not surprising for the IV century BC?

## MACEDONIAN AND BRAHMANS

Much is known about the adventures of Alexander the Great in the Indian campaign, as well as about the strange discussions that he led with the Indian sages. Alexander knew about them, about their amazing asceticism, their unusual way of life and their alleged comprehension of the essence of the world. Alexander's conversation

with the brahmans of India was included in all anthologies about ancient history.

But it seems that rumor has obviously exaggerated the dignity of the ascetics there, and the hymnosophists, as the Indian sages were called, disappointed the European.

In any case, the ancient Roman historian Arrian, describing Alexander's campaign, spoke out very skeptically about them: "In the book about India, I will tell about their (brahmans) wisdom, if they have any at all."

In the book about Alexander, Arrian did not consider it necessary to spend time on it. Apparently, because Macedonian seemed to him wiser and deeper glorified hymnosophists.

## UNDERWATER TESTS ALEXANDRA

The sea passage of Alexander the Great across the Pacific, as we already know, did not take place.

But there were other, no less significant trips on ships across the Mediterranean Sea, along the great rivers of Arabia and India. He went to the Indian Ocean. But that was not enough for him.

He decided to study the water column, for which he built ... a bathyscaphe. It is difficult to say how he looked, but the traces of such a device remained in historical documents, and even more so in the legends of the commander.

It is believed that the bathyscaphe was first invented by Leonardo da Vinci at the end of the 15th century, that is, two thousand years later. At the time of Macedonian, of course, such a curiosity as a bathyscaphe, naturally, was not heard. How did he know about her? From the same secret sources?

There is an old, early medieval image of Macedon, descending into the water in an apparatus resembling a transparent glass barrel, hermetically sealed, with a hatch above and lighted lamps inside. The "barrel" is supported by ropes. Tsar Alexander sits inside the apparatus with his legs tucked in and observes the picture of the underwater life of the sea (or the river?) Unfolding in front of his eyes. Medieval this image, I suppose, had as its source some even earlier drawings, the trace of which is lost in the times of Alexander.

## UNCONDITIONED DOES MACEDONIAN RISE OVER THE EARTH?

About flights to heaven and to the stars in antiquity wrote more often than they think. The dream to see the heavenly abode of the gods (read - heavenly places, empyrean) never left people. The ancient chronicles are full of messages about aircraft and the ascension of people to heaven with the help of various forces, as well as about the appearance of people and gods from heaven.

In Egypt, for example, a wooden model of a glider discovered 25 thousand years ago was discovered; the sacred books of India tell in detail about the "vimans" - fiery flying machines; Viking legends retained memories of "waffle" - flying devices, which left behind a whirlwind of fiery sparks; In Mexico, an image of a space rocket with an astronaut inside, belonging to the ancient Maya was found. The hero of the Babylonian epic, Ethan (2.5 thousand years BC), flew to the sky and saw from there the Earth as small as a basket. Obviously, this way Earth can be seen only from space! But how an ancient person got there is a mystery.

So Alexander of Macedon repeated the feat of Ethan. In the second century BC. e. An anonymous Alexandrian author, in his chronicles about the life of Alexander the Great, reported on this fact. The manuscript was provided with drawings, one of which clearly shows how the king ascends to heaven. Naturally, the original source has long been lost, but the text and graphics along the chain of borrowing were transferred to the ancient Roman manuscripts, and then to the manuscripts of the Middle Ages.

Thus, a medieval manuscript book has been preserved, which also belongs to an anonymous German author and is also illustrated with miniatures. There is one among them - in every sense, remarkable: it depicts Alexander the Great in some kind of aircraft. The king, in solemn vestments and with a scepter in his hand, sits, as we would say now, in a cabin on a throne. The cockpit, apparently airtight, draws up four sledges of griffins, three in each.

From where the king took the necessary device for this, we hardly ever find out. But they knew about this event in Russia. Perhaps even from ancient primary sources, more ancient than the German manuscript. Those who were in Vladimir could pay attention to the strange relief on the southern facade of the Dmitrievsky Cathedral, built in 1194–1197. So this is the twelfth century. The

structure was created earlier than the above-mentioned German manuscript. But on the relief of the Vladimir temple - the same story: Tsar Alexander the Great ascended to heaven in a device lifted by fantastic animals with wings - griffins.

It is clear that neither the griffins, nor any other living creatures in this context can be understood literally. This is only a symbol of some powerful and mysterious forces that were able to lift the cabin with the king to the sky.

Just as, say, Gagarin, cast in bronze on the square named after him in Moscow, does not at all illustrate his ascension to heaven, which our descendants may think about. This is only a conventional image of a breakthrough into space. Sign it! It is the same with the animals of Alexander the Great as a "cosmic thrust". This is her conditional image. Which is quite in the spirit of ancient thinking, through symbolic.

In this case, everything falls into place: the relief of the Dmitrievsky Cathedral in Vladimir, and the miniature of a medieval artist do not seem fantastic.

And here is the proof that the king clearly saw the Earth from space and that this is not a simple air flight.

When Alexander rose high, the medieval manuscript narrates, he "did not see either the earth or the water." Then, when he looked down again, "the earth presented itself to him as a small ball in an endless ocean." Isn't it a cosmic flight?!

American astronauts flying to the Moon said much the same thing.

So maybe it's not by chance that Alexander hinted to his comrades-in-arms and subjects to his heavenly origin...

## **The Secret of the Amber Room**

The amber room is a tremendous value, not only for Russia, but is considered a masterpiece of world jewelry.

After the loss of the Amber Room during the Second World War, many scientists were looking for it, but there were even more secrets than at the beginning of the search.

Recall. The Amber Room itself was conceived by a talented German sculptor and architect Andres Schlüter, commissioned by the Prussian monarch Frederick I. The King decided to surpass the luxury of Versailles and planned to decorate his office and gallery with his country residence in Potsdam with amber. Work on the creation of the Amber Cabinet was completed in 1709. But there was an accident: badly fixed amber panels suddenly collapsed. In anger, the king drove A. Schlüter out of the country.

During the life of Frederick I, work on the amber gallery and the cabinet was never completed. His successor, Wilhelm I, who denounced his father's love for luxury, ordered that work be stopped. But the ready-made fragments were real jewelry masterpieces: panels of amazing beauty with unique ornaments, flower garlands made from numerous, tastefully selected pieces of solar stone, paintings and emblems, in the manufacture of which amber was used in different shades. The uniqueness of the work of German masters is that they first used amber to create paintings - earlier this stone was used only in the manufacture of jewelry, caskets, furniture inlay. Amber panels consisted of thousands of polished plates: radiant and transparent, they created an indescribable effect of sunlight.

A few years later, Wilhelm I exchanged this amber treasure for 55 Russian soldiers, whose height was more than two meters. So the amber room was in Russia, in the treasury of the Russian Tsar Peter I. These values did not interest the Russian monarch, therefore they were in the outbuildings of the Summer Palace for a long time. Only in 1743, the daughter of Peter I, Elizaveta Petrovna decided to decorate the rooms of the Winter Palace with an Amber Cabinet.

They commissioned the creation of a solar stone cabinet to the brilliant architect Bartholomew Rastrelli. In the back room there was a panel with an area of about 55 square meters, but the planned Amber Room was six times larger than the office of Friedrich I. Rastrelli coped brilliantly with this problem: he used wooden gilded carvings for pictures, additional pictures of jasper and agate, mirrors, golden sconces. The room turned out amazing and exquisite beauty.

200 years Amber Room has not been subjected to any alterations. In September 1941, the remaining guards of Tsarskoye Selo were brought to Pulkovo Heights, no one dismantled the Amber Room, so it was not possible to remove it in time.



Only after the blockade was lifted from Leningrad, was it possible to calculate the irretrievable losses of the treasures of the city. The Nazis robbed to the thread Catherine Palace. Everything was removed: from silk wallpaper and parquet floors to all doors. The Amber Room was also removed by the Nazis at the end of 1941 in Königsberg, the capital of East Prussia. Since then its traces are lost.

There are many versions where the Amber Room can be located. Each version has its opponents and supporters. And although many documents were found accompanying any search, the world-famous masterpiece was never found. It seems that someone very influential does not want this secret to be revealed. Many argue that as soon as the investigations come to a resultant point, something happens: either documents suddenly disappear, or an important witness dies, etc. If this is true, then the search for the Amber Room can last forever.

But we will stop on the most interesting versions. Joseph Stalin was never particularly interested in the Amber Room, engaging in more important public affairs. Once, after signing the “non-aggression pact” with Germany in 1939, Stalin spoke with Count Alexei Nikolayevich Tolstoy. A specific question was asked to the representative of culture - how can one strengthen the “fragile friendship” with Germany? Since A. Tolstoy lived for a long time in Pushkin, he offered to present the Germans with a gift ... The Amber Room. Stalin did not expect such a proposal and was outraged. But the count explained that supposedly this room was in a deplorable state, it would take a lot of money for restoration, and all the more, the monarch Frederick I had donated it to the Russians in due time and there would be nothing bad if this masterpiece returned to Germany. But Stalin decided this question in his own way: a talented stonemason Anatoly Osipovich Baranovsky was found, he was provided with all the necessary materials. The restorer was required to make a copy of the Amber Room. Baranovsky warned the leader of all nations that it would be impossible to repeat this masterpiece of jewelry art in such a short time as much as possible. But Stalin was not embarrassed, he urgently needed to “strengthen the friendship” with Hitler.

Together with his students, Baranovsky worked on a government order day and night. And the supervisor, at work, was appointed A. Tolstoy. The work was hampered by numerous high-ranking officials, who, having learned about the talented craftsman, annoyed him with requests to make pendants, bracelets, brooches and other amber jewelry made to order. After Stalin's intervention, the flow of

petitioners immediately stopped. Baranovsky suffered a heart attack, but continued to work. Two copies of the Amber Room were created: the master made a copy himself, and his students did the layout of the 1: 1 scale. Two years later, both copies of the Amber Room were ready! Of course, on closer examination, the copy was not entirely accurate: other color ratios, instead of mirror pilasters, were made of amber pilasters, etc.

Two days before the start of the war, the original Amber Room was replaced with a copy of Baranovsky. Then she was carefully photographed, disassembled and sent for storage in the basement of the Catherine Palace. But the layout, which was created by the pupils of the master, was collected in the hall where the authentic Amber Room was previously located. But we didn't have time to give the Germans a gift - early in the morning of June 22 the Germans bombed Soviet cities.

So there were three Amber Rooms in Pushkino: the original, a copy of Baranovsky and a mock-up installed in the palace hall. Only Alexey Tolstoy and the director of the Pavlovsk Palace Museum knew that the original, carefully packed, was sent to Moscow on July 6, 1941. Accompanied this load two students Baranovsky. But the fate of these people for a long time was not known.

Very strange is the fact that Alexey Tolstoy did not say anything about this transportation of the Amber Room, when after the war they created a commission for its search, although he was part of this commission.

One of the researchers, who devoted himself to the search for the Amber Room - Alexander Kuchumov, in consequence, bitterly said: "Even if she is alive, it does not make sense to look for her!"

Only a miracle can be considered that in the eighties of the last century one of Baranovsky's pupils was found - Andrei Nikolaevich Vorobiev. It was he who allegedly accompanied the transportation of the original Amber Room in 1941. From his story, it follows that in Moscow the original of the Amber Room was placed in the vaults of the Tretyakov Gallery. At that time, the entire staff of this gallery was already sent outside the Urals, and the premises of the Tretyakov Gallery were fully at the disposal of the NKVD. In one of the rooms of the gallery, the Amber rooms were installed — they were carefully photographed and measured. Stalin also seemed to come to see this masterpiece of jewelry art.

At the same time, a sensation was an event that occurred in December 1994 at the London auction of antiques. There was put up for auction gem with the image of a Roman warrior, which, according to experts, was part of a genuine Amber Room. Another piece, the lost masterpiece, appeared in 1997. Potsdam police found four mosaic paintings belonging to the Amber Room. The authenticity of the findings was confirmed by employees of the Tsarskoye Selo Museum. In the same place in Germany two dressers which were a part of the Amber room were found.

Perhaps these facts confirm the version that the original of the Amber Room was nevertheless taken out by the Hitlerites when the museums of St. Petersburg were plundered during the Second World War.

The active search for the Amber Room began in 1949, after Molotov, calling the secretary of the Kaliningrad Regional Committee, asked: "Comrade Stalin wondered where the Amber Room?". Almost all special services and museum specialists were connected to the search. The search engines figured out that it was to Koenigsberg that the Germans brought all the objects of art stolen in Europe, since the Nazis considered it the most peaceful place: military operations went far, American and British bombers did not reach there. Only in mid-1944 the Americans bombed the city. As a result of the raid, fires broke out in the city, the castle suffered as well, where, presumably, the Amber Room could be located.

Also, for storing valuables, the Germans built a large number of bunkers. Perhaps the Amber Room was located in one of these numerous underground vaults. So, from the protocols of interrogation of the employees of the SD, whose duties included the protection of valuables, it turned out that they were putting boxes with especially valuable exhibits in one of the bunkers. Today, many of the bunkers of the Nazis were investigated, there really were found weapons, money, works of art, but no trace of the Amber Room was found.

There is also a kind of "maritime version", the essence of which is as follows: The Amber Room was loaded onto Velgelm Gustlof transport for transportation to the Zemlansky Peninsula, but the ship was sunk by a Russian submarine. So far this transport has failed to lift from the depths of the sea, but preparatory work is already underway.

Since 1979, in St. Petersburg began to restore the famous Amber Room. It was planned to open it for visits to celebrate the 300th anniversary of the city. The restorers needed more than 6 tons of amber and 7.754 million dollars and another \$ 3.5 million, were transferred to the restoration fund by the German company 'Ruhrgas AG'.

Today, the restored Amber Room can be seen in the Tsarkoselsky Museum. It is the pearl of the Catherine Palace and, undoubtedly, one of the wonders of the world.

## **Who are the Amazons?**

What does the concept of "Amazon"?

In past centuries, Amazons called warlike women who were able to fight and do without male protection. It is said that in order to continue the race, the Amazons captured men. This, of course, is very similar to an unreal fairy tale.

However, if they say about Amazons after so many centuries, it means for good reason.

There are several opinions about the meaning of the word "Amazon." Some believe that it means "bezgrudaya" - teenage girls in the tribes burned the right chest with red-hot coals. This was done to ensure that the chest does not interfere with the war. But this source is rather dubious, because in no chronicles is this mentioned.

Others argue that the word "Amazon" comes from Iranian and means "warriors" or "inviolable." One way or another, the meaning of this word is quite close according to different sources.

### **Where did the Amazons come from?**

Where did these interesting Amazons come from, where did they live? Many scientists worked on this issue, and no matter how much they wanted, but they still disagreed. Someone believes that the Amazons were a nomadic way of life, constantly changing their habitat.

Other scholars suggest that the Amazons had their kingdom somewhere in the Crimea, or on the Mediterranean coast. And some

scientists argue that the Amazons came from Asia or the Caucasus. Unfortunately, to prove this or that point of view is impossible.

Therefore, it remains only to guess about their place of birth and habitat. One thing is certain: the Amazons lived only with women; men were used to continue the race.

### **What is the essence of the Amazons?**

So what was the essence of these warlike women? Amazons perfectly possessed weapons, fought on a par with men, famous for their steadfastness and belligerence. They conquered new lands, had no pity and sympathy.

Men did not recognize, and therefore lived far from them. If a boy was born to the Amazons, they simply killed him. In rare cases, they gave to their father and sent them to the unfortunate parent back home. These women are an excellent example of matriarchy, where the dominant role of women is obvious.

From the very early years, girls were taught horseback riding, the art of gun possession, martial techniques. After all, for the Amazons, war was always considered commonplace, even the meaning of their existence. Amazon troops were considered elite, and anyone, even the most experienced commander, considered it an honor to fight in alliance with the Amazons. However, female warriors allied quite rarely, only in case of danger of their tribe.

Amazons did not do household chores, did not cook. Some historians believe that men were present in the tribes of female warriors, either as slaves or as domestic servants engaged in cooking and other household chores. The Amazons fought and diligently engaged in the education of girls, future female warriors.

From the point of view of psychology and philosophy, women and men differ not only in physical features, but also in behavioral norms. In Amazons, however, both types of behavior consist: male and female. On the one hand, Amazons are women who are inherent in loving, raising children and maintaining comfort and order in the house. On the other hand, the Amazons are women who have been accustomed to kill since childhood, it is great to wield a weapon and ride a horse perfectly.

The main weapon of the Amazons is considered to be Sagaris.

This is a kind of ax with two blades. He appeared at the Scythians, hence the name. Sagaris was distributed on the island of Crete, symbolized the natural feminine. In addition to the ax, the Amazons loved to use a bow with arrows.

There are many historically proven facts, such as excavations, indicating a surprisingly perfect possession of these weapons by the Amazons. Amazons rarely went into battle on foot. Almost always, they drove the saddled horses, which they rode perfectly.

Thus, the Amazons preferred a universal set of Scythians: an ax and a bow with arrows. They had other weapons, which they perfectly owned. There are metal plates, and spears, and tips.

### **Origins of origin**

It is known that since the 600th century BC in Athens, a woman had no right to vote. In many states, such as Sparta, for example, women simply did household chores and raised their children. In addition, in Sparta, the birth of girls was not very happy; they gave preference to boys as future warriors.

Perhaps this is what has become a kind of impetus to the emergence of the Amazons - independent, self-sufficient, strong and fearless women who wanted to participate in battles, vote on a par with men. Soon, after the first mention of the Amazons, it became clear: not only men are able to stand up to defend their homeland; well-trained, physically trained women can cope with this very well.

Herodotus first in the Iliad announced the existence of the Amazons. And in European legends, Efor gave his version of the appearance of these female warriors. He wrote that some men went to Europe, where they were killed. Their wives, sisters and children were left alone.

They were forced to take control of the country. Pompey wrote that the Amazons were simply wives of the Scythians, who had lost their husbands. And in order not to be lost, they were forced to take control and protection upon themselves.

As can be seen, according to many authors, the appearance of the Amazons is associated with constant wars, in which all capable men died. In order to survive, women learned to fight, riding. And then, over time, the legends about women who fight better than men

began to "grow into" new details that vividly describe the cruel temper of the Amazons, hatred of men, the desire to fight, kill and take prisoners.

### **Amazon and art**

Amazons are portrayed in pictures, poems, adventure novels are written about them, and films are made. The direction with Amazons in literature, painting and filmography is very popular.

In the pictures, these women warriors are depicted mostly with a spear or sword, galloping on a horse. This is the main image of the Amazons in painting. The Amazon theme reached its peak of popularity in the 7th century BC, when maiden warriors were actively depicted in both sculpture and painting.

Amazons were depicted in sculpture, namely reliefs, statues. As in painting, the Amazons in sculpture were handed down with weapons, on horseback. There are even subject sculptures, such as "The Battle of the Amazons and Tisey", "The Amazons and Tisey."

Arkady Krupnyakov wrote a whole novel, which is proudly called the "Amazon." This book is entirely devoted to these women. But, in addition to this book, there are many interesting literary works in which the Amazons take part.

Films also shot a lot on this topic. "Tarzan and the Amazons", "Amazons on the Moon", "Amazons and Gladiators" - and this is not a complete list of films, not to mention the television series in which the Amazons take pride of place.

It is also interesting that the Amazons left their mark even in astrology. In honor of the most famous female warriors such asteroids were named as Hippolyta, Klymene, Asteria.

### **Amazon and Mythology**

Legends and myths about female warriors exist among all tribes of the world. They differ only in some minor details.

In Greek mythology, the Amazons occupy a certain place of honor. Many other legends tell about these women.

Its origin in Greek mythology, the Amazons take from the

mollusk of Harmony and the god of war Ares. The very first of the Amazons, also was known as Lysippus. These women had their own patroness - the goddess Artemis, whom they worshiped in every way, worshiped and prayed, built temples in her honor, erected statues. According to legends, during the years of the famous Trojan War, the Amazons fought on the side of the great Troy.

About the exploits of Hercules, probably, every student knows. For example, in the thirteenth feat of this mythical hero there was a task: to get the Amazon belt for the redemption of Princess Hippolyta. Hercules accomplished this feat, but not without difficulty, and for that he was a feat. This myth shows how difficult it was to defeat, to trick the Amazon, which once again proves the strength of these women.

The myth of Theseus by the Amazons tells of Theseus, who ruled the once great Athens. Together with Hercules, he went to the country of the Amazons, and from there brought Antiope, the princess of the Amazons. However, the Amazons did not share the views of Theseus that the princess will be with him well.

Therefore, the Amazons went to Antiope, to rescue her from the "captivity", and at the same time to take revenge on the Greeks. As you know, Athens has never been distinguished by their combat training. Their society preferred to invest all their efforts in science, painting, rhetoric, oratory, literature, painting. Therefore, with the arrival of the Amazons, they could not fight back.

The Athenians had to take refuge in the walls of the city. However, this did not help them. The Amazon tribe was well armed, and besides, each representative of the tribe had a great weapon. As a result, the Acropolis was besieged. The Athenians made several attempts to exorcise the besieged Amazons city. However, they did not succeed.

It is interesting that in the decisive battle of the Amazons and the Athenians, Antiope herself was on the side of her husband and fought against her own tribe. As it turned out, the princess strongly fell in love with her husband, so she could not speak out against him. But the decisive battle for both sides ended tragically. The beautiful Antiope died, Theseus threw down their arms, bending over their young wife. The Amazons, full of sorrow and grief for the untimely dead young princess, went home.



There is a myth about how the Amazons came to the aid of the great Troy. It is known that after Achilles killed the eldest son of the Trojan king, Hector, it became restless for the Trojans to live. After all, the famous Achilles was invulnerable, and in the whole of Troy there was no hero who could resist Achilles.

It was obvious that the Trojans would lose the battle with the Greeks. But unexpectedly for all the Amazons was decided to help Troy. In brilliant armor, with excellent armament, the warriors attacked the Greeks. One after another, the Greeks fell on the battlefield, and, it would seem, they would never defeat the great Amazons. But then Achilles appeared who mercilessly killed the queen of the Amazons. Taking off her helmet, the warrior was struck by her beauty, and with great sadness took the body of the queen.

The progenitress of Amazons is considered to be the goddess of fertility and hunting, Artemis, who appeared on the island of Crete. Over time, it "moved" to Greece, where it "settled". Goddess is considered to be prodigal, in every sense of the word. It was from Artemis that all female warriors were born.

According to Herodotus, it was Dionysus and Ares who were worshiped, during their existence, by the Amazons. Diodorus, known as the Sicilian historian, claimed that war maidens participated in the hunt of Artemis.

According to some other myths, the Amazons were sisters of the rain nymph, referred to as the Hyades. One of the famous Ephesian legends tells how the Amazons decided to ask for protection from Dionysus himself. However, they did not succeed in obtaining the desired patronage.

But according to Euripides, everything happened the other way around, and the Amazons became honored companions of Dionysus. However, these are just myths. Homer also describes that the Amazons repeatedly attempted on the Phrygians.

### **"Amazon company"**

This concept came from the distant 1787. Crimea intended to visit, Empress Catherine the Second. Grigory Alexandrovich Potemkin issued an order to create a company in honor of this momentous event, which should consist only of women. The number of the fair sex was supposed to be a hundred.

Where did Potemkin come from? Just Catherine the Second heard once from a prince that somewhere in faraway Greece there are unseen warriors who, in their art of waging war, are superior to the most experienced men. Therefore, Grigory Alexandrovich Potemkin decided to surprise the empress, thus creating an army, which he called the "Amazonian company." The idea of the prince was appreciated. Catherine II showered Potemkin with unprecedented honors.

Who was involved in the creation of this army? Greek, by birth, Prime Minister of the Balaklava Regiment, the famous Chaponi. But the command of the company, he graciously gave his young, nineteen year old wife of noble blood. The same origin of the wife and daughter of the famous commanders of princes and majors made up the army.

Crimson skirts, green velvet jackets, white turbans with ostrich feathers on her head - all this completely conquered the heart of Catherine the Second. And the older girls had guns with three rounds. However, after the departure of the Empress, the company did not last long, and was soon disbanded.

Expensive pleasure was necessary for a few days. After all, that do we need a company in which the newly minted "Amazons" do not know how to hold weapons, not to mention the art of riding and moral qualities.

### **Amazing mentions**

The first mention of female warriors was noted by scientists from Homer's epic poem, the famous Trojan War, the Iliad. Homer notes that during battles, women who fought like men took part in battles even better.

After Homer, other ancient authors began to write about the Amazons. For example, Herodotus, an ancient Greek historian, called militant women - "killing men." In addition, Herodotus described many very interesting stories about the Amazons.

Some compilers of the biography of Alexander the Great told about the meeting of the great commander with the Queen of the Amazons. It is also interesting that there were rumors that there was a child, allegedly among the queen of militant women and the great

commander. However, this information is questioned, because there is no evidence of the veracity of information.

The Diary of the Trojan War by Diktis of Crete also mentions the Amazons as women capable of waging war. The famous diary tells in detail about the participation of the Amazons and their role in the war for Troy.

The Appolodore of Athens also mentions warrior women in his Historical Library. Namely, in his chronicles the Amazons march to Athens is well described.

Diodorus Sicily gives valuable information about the military campaign of the Libyan Amazons, who went through Egypt, Arabia, and conquered Syria and left behind many of the built temples and shrines founded by the new cities.

Further, for many centuries, the mention of the Amazons is revealed in myths, chronicles, fairy tales, legends, art and culture.

If we carefully analyze all the sources that mention the Amazons, we can conclude that each of the sources gives its own specific material, which is contradictory. This is clearly seen in the naming of the Amazons, the localization of their tribes. How is this explained?

The antiquity of events, the diversity of the material used, the peculiar opinion of every historian, lyricist and political scientist. Disagreements and differences of opinion, albeit small, do not carry the accuracy of information in themselves. However, despite this, we can conclude and summarize all the information about these mysterious women.

Sarmatians - descendants of the Amazons

Many legends and myths are preserved about the tribe of Sarmatians, who considered themselves descendants of the great Amazons. Their customs were different from the customs of the Amazons. Sarmatians lived not purely female tribe, there were also men. However, this did not prevent them from educating all the girls as real warriors and protectors.

The same riding lessons, elements of possession of a variety of weapons. In order to get married, the girls of the Sarmatian tribe had to win three times over the enemies. After that, the girl was considered fully prepared for marriage.

It is interesting to note that after marriage, women of the Sarmatian tribe stopped riding and using weapons until the tribe had to fight with anyone. As in the legends about the Amazons, women and this tribe had their right breast burned in childhood.

### **In the wake of the great Amazons**

Where just did not look for these uncharted female warriors. Historians have found confirmation of the presence of the Amazons in the Caucasus, Russia, Asia, Greece, and Turkey. This suggests that the era of the Amazons spread to all corners of the planet, or their tribe was really nomadic. One way or another, but thanks to the records in the annals, paintings, sculptures and other remnants of the past, one can judge the existence of these women.

In the middle of the 16th century, Spanish conquistadors became interested in rumors of a civilization supposedly hidden in the depths of the South American continent. Since their interest in the treasures of Mexico and Peru was exhausted, the conquistadors decided to find a tribe of mysterious Amazons.

About ten months it took the brave ones to get from Peru into the interior of the continent, because the enormous size of the rivers and jungles leading to a mysterious civilization created a rather difficult barrier. In addition, the hostile tribes of the natives, as well as adverse weather conditions, complicated the advancement of the conquistadors. Only in 1544 began to appear the first fairly reliable information. Francisco de Orellana led this reckless journey.

However, clashes with the natives, a grueling road, and terrible weather conditions did not prevent him from admiring afterwards with clashes with the Amazons themselves, for which he set out on this crazy journey. He described Amazons as women of high and white, portly, covering only certain places. It was not possible to capture any of the Amazons. This despite the fact that the Spaniards was had a whole arsenal of weapons, while the Amazons had no firearms at all.

This further confirms their excellent combat training. A prisoner

of one of the native tribes, spoke of the Amazons, as about fierce women, perfectly fighting and ruthlessly killing men. He told that the Amazons are burning out the right breast, for better mastery of the bow and arrow.

And once in a year they get in touch with men, to continue the race. Amazon boys are killed, and girls are left and brought up by their own rules and customs.

After one of the journeys of Christopher Columbus, the first stories about the Amazons appeared. In 1493, returning, Columbus learned from the local natives that not far from the island of Hispaniola, there is an island that is entirely inhabited only by women.

At certain times of the year, these strange women brought men to the island, who were later sent away. These women were excellent warriors, they have brilliant armor and other weapons, they shoot archery perfectly and ride horses perfectly.

All subsequent travels Columbus was desperate to find this mysterious island inhabited by women. Unfortunately, he could not find him. In essence, this island was not found by anyone at all. But, despite the fact that only rumors about him were not supported by anything, this did not stop for many years to talk about female warriors.

One of the Spanish authors was convinced that the Amazons kept incredible treasures that could enrich the world. But perhaps this is his suggestion was caused by the conquistadors' pathologically obsessive idea of treasure. In fact, throughout their existence, they were engaged only in treasure hunting.

According to another Spanish author, in the kingdom of the Amazons, gold and silver were abundant to such an extent that even furniture, dishes, household items were made of these precious metals.

In addition to the Spaniards, the Portuguese tried to discover the Amazon's country of residence. However, they expected the same failure as the Spaniards.

It should be noted that when Orellan and Columbus tried to gather information about the Amazons from the native tribes of the natives, they had to communicate through translators. However, local

dialects are so diverse that the probability of a translation error is quite high. In addition, besides rumors, none of the famous travelers brought reliable evidence confirming the existence of "single-breasted" Amazon women.

The northern Black Sea coast is also famous for the historical spirit of the Amazons. The myths and stories about the Black Sea coast, told by Herodotus and other scholars, historians and philosophers, clearly indicate that the world of Amazons once reigned here.

There are rumors around the world about the diverse location of the Amazons: in Brazil, in the jungles of America, in the Caucasus, Greece, Turkey, Asia, Russia, in Ukraine. And this is not the whole list of places where evidence of the existence of the Amazons was found.

### **Amazon in Russia**

During the excavations near the city of Rostov-on-Don, the capital of the Amazons, the city of Tanais, was found. Not far from this place, archaeologists found a female burial, where a sword was located next to the bodies of women. Nearby it found women's jewelry. This indicates the existence of female warriors in Russia in a certain period.

In addition, many tales of the Slavic peoples tell about the Amazons and their great exploits, as well as some terrible stories in these tales: heads on the fences of the great heroes, brutal bloody battles. It is interesting to note that at first, finding the first reminders of the Amazons on the outskirts of Russia and Ukraine, archaeologists did not associate weapons and mass remains of women with the image of women with weapons. Indeed, in a world where wars are ruled by men, howling women look ridiculous, even the thought of it.

Some scientists associated the presence of weapons in graves with rites, cults, a certain ritual use, but not with an instrument of resistance and murder. However, some time after the excavations, a multinational group appeared in Russia from the West of Europe, as well as from the USA.

This group actively promoted the presence of women capable of martial arts and riding. It was after this that Russian and Ukrainian scientists began to seriously think about the once-existing Amazons.

At one of the excavations, archaeologists found the remains of a teenage girl, about fourteen years old. It happened at the beginning of the 20th century. At first, scientists thought that the guy was buried, because next to him, in the grave, lay a weapon. However, after examination, the scientists were able to establish the floor: it was clearly a girl.

The bones of her lower limbs were crooked; this is clear evidence of permanent riding. The body was formed like a real modern athlete, which indicates an excellent physical and combat training, possession of weapons. In addition, a good selection of various weapons was found in the grave, including arrows.

### **Amazon in the Caucasus and Asia**

Traces of the great Amazons were found in the far Caucasus. Large burials of Amazons with various decorations and weapons were found near the Caucasian rivers Lesken and Cherek. The era of the life of the Amazons in the Caucasus can be attributed safely to the era of the decline of the great commander Alexander the Great.

Further history shows the active settlement of the Amazons in Asia, Russia. Excavations show that Amazon burials were found in various regions of Turkey, Russia, Uzbekistan, Turkmenistan, and Czechoslovakia.

The African Dogoma recorded a rather interesting story, which tells about the existence of two villages there: female and male. It is noteworthy that the inhabitants of both villages did not know about the existence of each other. After a random meeting of two representatives from different villages, they had a child.

Since then, women and men began to live together. New Guinea also has its ancient traditions. For example, one of them tells about a man who was swallowed by a huge turtle, thanks to which he ended up in a village where there were no men. With one woman managed to get close, and soon they had a child. Other inhabitants of the village also wanted children. So there is a male and female village.

In none of the legends, the aggressiveness of the Amazons is emphasized. So were they even aggressive?

### **"Amazons. Socio-political side "**

From sociology and politics, one can judge that the origin and age of the Amazons well reveal the political and social side. After all, the Amazon era is a vivid example of the matriarchal era, the desire of women to defend their land, their descendants, while men disappear in the war and are often unable to govern the state.

The period of matriarchy in history is remembered not only by chronicles, legends, but also by works of art that have come down to our times. These are statues of women, paintings, poems, chants, legends and myths. Interestingly, women are always depicted in art with bare breasts.

This is a sign of fertility, the importance of procreation, responsibility and great esteem.

### Graves of the Amazons

The fact that makes believe that the Amazons once existed, prove the found graves of female warriors. A Russian scientist, known as Count Bobrinsky, at the end of the 19th century conducted active research on mounds intended for burial in Ukraine.

There were many graves, and all the excavated mounds contained a rich variety of weapons, armor and lats. In addition, almost all graves were women. The first tomb, which the scientist discovered, presumably refers to the 4th century BC.

It contained two skeletons, one of which held a high position in society. The second skeleton was a man, he was lying at the feet of a woman. A variety of gifts were lavishly laid out around the first skeleton: weapons, decorations, and household items.

The male skeleton did not have a weapon, and the gifts were rather meager: two bronze bells and two decorative pipes. The rest of the burials discovered by Bobrinsky were filled with the same composition or with the same, equally packed women.

Many graves were found in the Pokrovka area, of which about a quarter belonged to women. Some of the bodies found by women dating back to the Iron Age indicate their high position in society. This makes it possible to assume that they hunted, protected their tribeswoman, and also performed many rituals for their families.

It should be noted that it was under Pokrovka that women were



buried first, placing them in the center of the pit. This indicates a true matriarchal society, when women were a central figure.

In the steppes of Sarmatia, many especially female graves were also found. This region was once called Herodotus the center of the preserved heritage of the Amazons. Basically, bows and arrows were found in the graves, which confirm rumors that the Amazons were excellent archers, as well as swords, axes, plates and other weapons.

Despite the large amount of Amazonian graves found by archaeologists around the world, some scientists reacted to the opinions of Amazonian supporters. This part of the scientists believed that the graves could have a purely ritual significance. However, the facts contradict the fact that the burial was a ritual.

After all, the weapons found in the graves, the curved bones of the legs of the female skeleton, testify a lot. This suggests that these women were taught to ride a horse since childhood. In addition, many turtles have traces of wounds, indicating that they got their Amazons with various weapons. And one skeleton in the leg found an arrow, which firmly sat down in the bone and safely reached our time with its owner.

## **Modern Amazons**

The existence of the Amazons left a deep mark, which easily swept through the centuries. Now you can often encounter modern "Amazons". Of course, they don't live separately, they don't lead a warrior and they don't kill men. However, more and more women appear willing to surrender to the male profession, easily coping with the affairs of men.

Many really use the male sex only to continue their kind. However, they do quite well and without men. The so-called "Amazons" have gained great popularity in modern Europe.

According to the ideas of our society, modern Amazons are masculine women, strong in spirit and physically sufficiently developed. In fact, Amazons can easily be called a strong woman who does not depend on anyone.

## **Amazon: Myth or Reality**

Of course, various myths and legends do not prove the real

existence of female warriors. But the excavations, which have been actively carried out throughout the world since the 20th century, prove that such women did exist. It may not have been the same as their legends and myths describe, but the fact that there were such women who perfectly mastered all types of weapons and rode perfectly, remains a fact.

A variety of ideas about their hatred of men and the killing of the boys who were born to them, this is perhaps an admonition that is increasingly overgrown with new information, being passed down from generation to generation.

Excavations show that in Russia and Ukraine, in various parts of Asia, in the Caucasus, in Turkey there were settlements of such incredible women. The facts, intertwined with myths and legends, give us interesting information that is still better to pre-sort.

It is impossible to say with certainty whether there were Amazons or not, since there are no facts that would fully confirm the existence of female warriors. However, not believing that the Amazons once lived is also wrong.

After all, history reveals more and more new evidence of the existence of the Amazons, which would be absurd to leave unnoticed.

## **Wizards of Ancient Egypt**

In ancient Egypt, they believed that magic allows us to establish contacts between people and gods (or demons), as well as between the worlds of the living and the dead. They resorted to it both to secure a comfortable future for themselves in the afterlife, and to solve problems in mortal life.

### **Mystery of the Sphinx**

The inscription on a stone slab placed between the paws of the Sphinx, guarding the pyramid of Khafre in El Giza, testifies to the faith of the old in the power of magic. The inscription says: at one point, Pharaoh Thutmos IV, the last then prince, tired out after the hunt, dozed off at the foot of the Sphinx.

In the dream, the god Khorem-akhet-Khepri-Ra-Atum, who was portrayed by the Sphinx, appeared to him. He ordered to clean the

statue from the sands that were brought by the wind from the desert and by the time of Thutmose they almost completely buried the Sphinx under themselves. In the merit of this service, God promised to make the prince Pharaoh. Waking up, Thutmose gave the order to immediately begin to perform the divine will, cleared the Sphinx and soon became Pharaoh. The rules of Thutmose IV were around 1397-1388 BC.

The description of one of the sections of magic - the technique of calling the spirits of the dead, or necromancy - is set out in the recommendations stored in the museums of London and Leiden in the Louvre in Paris. There are carefully described methods of establishing contacts not only with gods and spirits from the kingdom of light, but also with demonic creatures, also ruined, lost souls. It was believed that necromancy provides an opportunity to receive messages, advice and prescriptions from the other world, as well as to apply to the creatures residing there. All these acts were accompanied by certain, often very complex rituals.

The knowledge of the old Egyptians about the existence, form and occupation of demons was even wider and richer than the knowledge of European sorcerers in the era of the Middle Ages and the Renaissance.

The main source of information about underground demons is the ancient Egyptian Book of the Dead. From it we learn that the owners of this sad place guarded the gates of the afterlife from the penetration of the "wicked", wandered through the underground possessions of Osiris, and the bodies of the dead served them in this gloomy world, and they threw their thirst with their blood.

### **How to communicate with the other world**

The main content of magic rituals was spells. They served to call creatures from the other world. The exorcist subjugated the demons of the world of the dead to his own will, and then forwarded back to the place of unchanged stay. Spells were pronounced or read with special intonations, accompanied by proper gestures and postures. Each sorcerer had his own set of spells, which he kept in the strictest secrecy, because it was believed that if a "colleague" found out about them and, worse, he tried to use them, they would lose power.

Here is a clear example of the spell and its implementation, taken from the old text and cited in the famous novel "Pharaoh" by Boleslav Prus (translated by E. Troepolsky):

"Then the sorcerer raised his hands and said:" Father in heaven, meek and merciful, cleanse my soul. Here I am - relying on the help of God, I - the discerning and the intrepid ... I - mighty - I call you and implore you. Appear to me, obedient, - in the name of Aye, Saraje ... In the name of the all-powerful and endless god ... Amorul, Taneha, Rabur, Latisten. I implore and urge you. By the name of the star which is the sun. " Suddenly everything was quiet. In front of the altar there appeared a ghost in a crown, with a rod in his hand, riding on a lion.

- Beroes! Beroes! Said the ghost in a deep voice. "What are you calling me for?"

### Accessories and technique of magic rituals

A special kind of "applied" sorcery was the creation of substitute bodies, which were used only for the purposes of dark magic. The most ancient Egyptians were convinced that if a sorcerer made a wax figure of a person and began to perform certain rituals on it, their results would certainly affect the person who served as the model's mockup. About the prevalence of similar manipulations with pupae of wax indicate, namely, the inscriptions on the sarcophagus of the Middle Kingdom era (2040-1783 (or 1640) BC), as well as ancient texts.

In the so-called "Papyrus Lee" there is such a record:

"Pentiboon, who was the manager of the estate, said to him like this:" Bring me a book that would give me magical power and authority ". And he brought him a book on magic from the library of Pharaoh Westermaat-Re-Meri-Amon, the great god, his own sovereign, and he went to use divine power against his own people. His assistant, El-rem, made wax figures of people and made different charms and spells on them. And so both of them inflicted diseases on people, pestilence and other misfortunes. "

And here is a text fragment from Rollin Papyrus:

"I resorted to witchcraft to cause and bring misfortune. I made several wax figures of gods and people, so that later I could cause these people to become dry and dead. I gave these figures to Rabbekameo, whom the divine Re did not appoint as the ruler of the house. "

The papyrus tells about the conspiracy of the servants of the harem against Ramses III, the last outstanding pharaoh of the New Kingdom, who ruled around 1185-1153 BC. e. The plot also involved

some magicians who practiced black magic and turned their art against Pharaoh and his courtiers. But, as the papyrus narrates further, the conspiracy was revealed. The conspirators, whose leaders recognized two sorcerers, were tried.

One mage was brutally executed, the other was forced to commit suicide.

However, not only conspirators resorted to the services of black magic, but also Egyptian nobility, to the Pharaohs inclusive. After all, they also had to fight against their enemies for life and death. In these cases, the book "The Book of the Overthrow of Apophis" probably served them, in which, for example, this method of destroying enemies is suggested:

"Make wax figurines of all living and inanimate enemies of Pharaoh and write on them the names of these people with green paint.

Put the figures in the box, spit on them, and then trample the "unclean" left foot "

Isn't the source of the phrase "stand with your left foot" here?

"After that, they would be stabbed with a knife and thrown into the burning straw, which was then extinguished, filled with the urine of an adult woman."

One of the most powerful magic tools since ancient times was considered an amulet. His appointment – is to protect his master from all sorts of trouble.

According to the ancient Roman writer and historian Pliny the Elder, in ancient Egypt, amulets were most prevalent in the period of the New Kingdom (1582-1070 BC). The amulets were made of precious and simple stones, metal, glass, wood.

They would be pieces of papyrus or cloth with spell texts or drawings of magical symbols. Sometimes amulets in the form of small objects were placed inside nodules on the surface of weaved the belt.

## **Mage healers**

The most closely magic in ancient Egypt was associated with medicine and healing. The greatest of the sages, sorcerers and healers in the Egyptian tradition was considered to be Imhotep, the supreme

dignitary of Pharaoh Djoser, who ruled around 2630-2611 BC. The name and titles of Imhotep, the builder of the first pyramid, the stepped tomb of Djoser in Saqqara, are preserved on the statue of the pharaoh in the memorial temple at this pyramid.

However, the healer's fame outweighed all the other merits of Imhotep, and he was later deified as a patron of healing, especially revered in Memphis. Since the middle of the first millennium BC the Greeks began to identify him with Asclepius, the god of medicine, who even had the ability to resurrect the dead. In ancient Roman mythology, Asclepius corresponds to Esculapius.

### **Revenge of the Sarcophagus from the Plundered Tomb**

One of the most important tasks of magicians in ancient Egypt was the protection of the secrets and peace of their former owners and patrons after their transition to another world.

And they coped well with this task both during life and after death.

There is much evidence that in ancient times the fate of cruel punishment of robbers and defilers of the tombs of noble Egyptians. It is widely known about the sudden and mysterious death of many of those who participated in the autopsy and research of the famous tomb of Pharaoh Tutankhamun. But few know about another, more mysterious and sinister story associated with the opening of the grave of a priestess of the god Amon-Ra, who lived about 3,600 years ago in the city of Veset and was buried in the Valley of the Kings near Biban el Muluka. Her grave was ransacked in the 60s of the XIX century.

The mummy of the priestess was not preserved, but the sarcophagus with the image of the female face of demonic beauty remained intact. It is said that everyone who dealt with this sarcophagus was overtaken by a premature and inexplicable death. It is including all of his successors. A photographer who took pictures of the sarcophagus, in one of the pictures allegedly saw the living face of a beautiful Egyptian woman with an ominous smile on her lips. The last owner of the relic saved her life by donating it to the British Museum. But the spell continued. When it became obvious that after the acquisition of the sarcophagus, the death rate among museum workers increased dramatically, it was decided to hide the mummy in the basement, and put a copy in the hall.

Meanwhile, the Americans were interested in the sarcophagus,

and in 1912 its secret delivery to the USA was organized. The relic was packed in a simple box, in the cargo bill of lading and customs declaration it was recorded as a "box with books". April 10, 1912 in Southampton, he was loaded onto the most modern and most reliable steamship of the Royal Postal Service. This steamer was the Titanic, which set out on its first working voyage. And on the night of April 14-15, what everyone knows is happening: the giant ship collided with a huge iceberg and sank. Of the 2,224 passengers, only 710 survived.

As it turned out later, on the Titanic's route, a fatal iceberg was the only one within a radius of several dozen miles.

## Secrets of the Roman dungeons

In the history of Rome there are three millennia. At present, the appearance of the city bears the imprint of the past - new houses are built on top of the ancient, many of which are still hidden under the ground.

In the depths of the Eternal City is hidden a whole world since the fall of the Roman Empire. This is a large number of roads, temples, aqueducts and houses. So, for example, the ancient sewage canal, called the Big Cesspool, which passes under the roads of modern Rome, is that gutter, which was blocked by arches and hidden under the pavement during the Great Roman Empire.

The lion's share of ancient structures was underground as a result of the gradual deposition of sediments and active construction. Rome was rising higher for thousands of years. Despite the fact that at present, archaeological expeditions are digging up some of these ancient structures, most of them still remain under the streets of the modern city. Therefore, we can only guess what treasures are still waiting in the wings.

A few years ago, scientists were able to examine only a quarter of the underground passages located under the Colosseum, only those that were the driest and most accessible. These turned out to be channels for diverting stormwater runoff, which date from the end of the first century, that is, in the meantime, when the Colosseum was built. Some works that have come down to our time contain references to the amphitheater filled with water for the amusement of the public, and "sea battles" were organized there. At the same time,

no evidence of the presence of large hydraulic structures, which were necessary to supply a large amount of water, for a long time could not be found. And only in the fall of 2003, a group of speleologists, which was engaged in investigating the underworld on behalf of the authorities, managed to make an amazing discovery. They found that large canals were built under the primitive passages, which were used to fill the artificial lake with water in the garden of Nero. Moreover, they were created much earlier than the Colosseum. Thus, it is quite obvious that during the years of its existence the Colosseum could have been filled with water, like other ancient Roman theaters.

Often, monuments hidden under the ground are discovered by chance during repair or construction works. Workers discover voids in the ground, cause speleologists, and the world will learn about another ancient find that changes the concept of history.

One of these completely random finds was discovered a few years ago on the top of a mountain of options. After heavy rains, a failure appeared near one of the trees, under which one could see a labyrinth and several rooms. Cavers descended down and, under the light of a lantern, saw a well-preserved mosaic depicting a group of naked men collecting grapes and making wine. The mosaic took about three meters and was made of small pieces of marble, painted in a bright color. Scientists called the discovery "Grape Harvest."

Many traces of ancient civilizations are found in Malta. Local museums are full of objects that indicate the existence of a highly developed civilization on the island, which lived here about 6 thousand years ago.

It was in Malta that the famous Hypogeum was found, not the temple, not the crypt, located in the ground. It was found about 7 thousand skeletons, which should indicate the funeral purpose of the structure, but in the world architecture it has no analogues. If this is a crypt, then why do we need so many halls, different in design and geometry, distributed over three levels? It is also surprising that the structure was not erected from limestone, like most buildings on the island, but hollowed out in it.

At the lowest level there is a trap - seven asymmetric oblique steps of different geometry, under which was located a trap with a height of more than two meters.

However, the greatest mystery of the Hypogeum is located in a



dead end room of the second level. This is a hall having an ovoid shape with an incomprehensible burial in the wall and a round window that leads to the adjacent room. Because of the unusual geometry, only the male echo can be heard here, the female one is not. Scientists cannot explain how a similar acoustic effect is achieved.

Between the Hypogeum and Tarshin, one of the largest land churches in Malta, the distance is only three hundred meters. At the same distance, but on the island of Gozo, near the temple Ggantija also discovered an underground temple. This made it possible for scientists to suggest that there may be an underground structure next to each of the 23 temples that survived on the island of Malta.

According to scientists, this dualistic philosophy of the ancient builders does not allow them to be considered primitive people or savages. It is interesting that savages really lived in Malta, but not in antiquity, but only two hundred years ago. They were covered with wool, stunted people who communicated with each other with the help of gestures and grunting. In total, about 200 such individuals were found. Scientists attributed them to the kind of humanoid, which is called "snow people".

Many ancient underground tunnels and tunnels are located near Jerusalem. This is a whole system of channels and moves, which is connected to the source of Gihon. At the time of ancient Jerusalem, it was the only source that provided the entire city with water. Many key historical events are associated with the source: the seizure of Jerusalem by David, the opposition to the Assyrian king Sinahuribu, the anointing of Solomon to the kingdom. Europeans learned about the existence of Gihon only a half century ago. Since then, the source has attracted not only scientists, but also treasure hunters. Currently, most of the plumbing system is cleared of century-old deposits of debris and rock fragments, but despite this, scientists still continue to find facts that fundamentally change ideas about the structure of this system. Moreover, some of these facts cannot be explained so far.

In 1867, the British captain of engineering troops, Charles Warren, arrived in Jerusalem. He intended to investigate the Temple Mount, but authorities allowed him to carry out excavations only outside the city walls. Therefore, he began to study the system of tunnels that led to the source of Gihon. He tried to enter the tunnel, which led the water to the south-west, in Siloamsky pond. At present, the passage through this tunnel does not cause any difficulties, but in the XIX century it was packed with debris, dirt and rubble. Still,

Warren moved slowly inland, and at some point he saw that the tunnel had a branch in which there was no ceiling. In other words, Warren hit the bottom of a vertical shaft. After some time, he stocked up with ropes and planks and built three-tier forests in this mine. Despite the great danger, he managed to get to the top, into a cave with two tunnels going to the north-west and south-west. One of them was impassable, and the second went up at a 45-degree angle and went out into a room with a low ceiling, then another climb began, but the exit was closed.

Warren made the assumption that this vertical shaft was used to draw water from Gihon, which flowed through the underground channel, and the tunnel was necessary to protect the city during the siege. In addition to the plumbing system, Warren also discovered remnants of defenses on one of the hills. His discoveries were proof that ancient Jerusalem was located outside the Old City.

In 1870, Warren was forced to return to Britain for health reasons. Despite the fact that he no longer came to Palestine, the discoveries in Jerusalem did not stop. Thus, in particular, in 1880, children accidentally climbed into the Hezekiyagu tunnel and saw, near the entrance on the wall, a sign with an inscription inscribed on it, which told about two groups of stonecutters who had broken through the tunnel. Until now, this inscription remains the longest of all written in ancient Hebrew and found in Jerusalem. The dated plate was 7th century BC. They tried to steal it, but the tablet broke into several parts. By happy coincidence, before the incident, the scientists took a copy and read the inscription.

At the beginning of the last century, explorer William Jewell suggested that the treasures of Solomon are hidden in a cave under the Temple Mount, and the entrance to this cave is located in the mines discovered by Warren. The scientist promised a profit to those who would agree to finance his expedition, but he didn't have a long wish. It was only in 1908 that British officer Montague Parker became interested in Jeweler's ideas, which collected £ 20,000 and went to Palestine along with the expedition. Thanks to the bribing of local authorities, he was able to carry out excavations virtually unhindered. But local residents were on the alert, because the group was not at all like scientists. Nevertheless, the expedition members examined the Warren mines in search of a secret tunnel that would lead deep into the mountains. Perhaps the researchers would have been able to find out something, but in 1911 the expedition had to be interrupted.

It would seem that the secret of the supply of fresh water to Jerusalem was revealed. However, the excavations carried out in 1995-2010 by an expedition led by Reich and Shukrun forced us to reconsider the findings made earlier. During the excavation, a tunnel was found located at a level of three meters from the floor, which began in a cave above the Warren Mine and led to the south. There were found things expedition Parker. It was found that the tunnel sharply turned to the south and led to a large pool in the rock, about which nothing was known before. Above the pool found the remains of a fortified passage and tower.

All these findings have given rise to doubt that the Warren mine was a central element of the system. On the contrary, it was almost superfluous. Indeed, why draw water from a deep mine, if there is a source and a pool, reliably protected from possible attacks. On the other hand, if there already exists a mine of natural origin, which provides access to drinking water, then why make such enormous efforts to build a basin? It is also not clear why the tunnel that led to the pool was so high.

Currently, the underground mines and tunnels of Jerusalem still hide many secrets that scientists have yet to unravel. Archaeological research continues, and it is possible that once scientists will be able to find answers to all questions.

## Ancient metallurgy

Metal surrounds a person everywhere. But at the same time, none of the scientists can name when and where metallurgy originated. According to modern historians, it was happened about one and a half thousand years ago. However, what then to do with the evidence claiming that in the Middle and Southern Urals metal was smelted more than 5 thousand years ago. Or how to perceive the smelters of Arkaima and other ancient settlements, as well as the Chudsky mines, which date back to about 3-7 millennia BC.

Historical scholars divide the historical process into the stone, bronze, and iron ages. This classification in 1816 was proposed by Christian Jorgen Tommensen, a philanthropist and businessman from Denmark, a perfect amateur in archeology and a lover of antiquity. Nevertheless, scientists took its classification as a dogma, and in 1876 two more periods were added to it - the copper and copper-stone age.

There is a legend among historians that metallurgy originated in a completely random fashion, when stones containing metal were melted into a primitive man's fire. Moreover, it happened, judging by the legend, at about the same time all over the planet. The temperature of the fire flame reaches about 700 degrees, and for copper smelting you need at least 300 degrees more. In addition to high temperature, copper smelting requires the release of oxides from excess oxygen. Otherwise, the ore will not melt, but simply become charred, or oxidize, becoming a powdery substance that is completely unsuitable for the manufacture of tools. But it is known that an open flame is an oxidative process, and thus it is impossible to rid the ore of excess oxygen in this way.

Bronze can be obtained by alloying copper and tin, and tin, in turn, can include alloys with silicon, aluminum, lead. Thus, tin can be different, and people in the 3rd millennium BC, apparently, were well versed in chemistry. This is more like nonsense. In addition, historians claim that the ancient tin was obtained on a completely different technology, they did not need to deal with the alloy of metals, because they received tin from special ore. Simply put, melted down - and immediately got the bronze. But this does not happen - even a first-year student, the future metallurgist, knows this.

In Europe, there was virtually no copper age, so copper products are extremely rare here. But bronze products appear suddenly and quickly spread. Moreover, already the first products testified to the high skill of the creators. The same can be said about Mexico. There, bronze articles also appeared suddenly, in a developed form and with the use of large forces of complex techniques.

Similarly with the smelting of iron. It takes a long time between the first experience of use in Europe and the ability to mold into forms (2-2.5 thousand years). In Asia, the skill of smelting appeared suddenly, as if brought from somewhere outside. It is logical to assume that the ancients did not gradually learn to smelt metal, but received the finished technology.

It is also interesting that various bronze items and weapons found in Europe are striking in their similarities. Products are almost copies of each other, even it seems that they were made in one workshop.

The fact that the art of bronze smelting was brought in from the outside can be proved by the fact that the most developed civilizations

- Mesopotamian and Egyptian - did not have their raw materials, therefore they sent expeditions to the Caucasus and the Iberian Peninsula.

Some scholars say that one cannot exclude the possibility that information on the processing of bronze was part of the lost knowledge, which were the monopoly of closed groups of initiates. Therefore, in Europe, the processing of metals for many centuries was considered magic.

It is not clear how it relates to such reports: in the area of Lake Ontario, long before the arrival of the Europeans, there lived an ancient civilization that knew the technology of making copper. It was about 7500-1000 BC. And one more message related to the previous one: the archaeologist Mullery in North America discovered traces of metallurgists, which existed 7 thousand years ago.

In 1974, a terracotta army was discovered in China, which dates from around 200 BC. Armed with this army, there were high-carbon steel arrows with chrome-plated tips. It is noteworthy that in Europe, metal began to chrome only in the nineteenth century. The Chinese themselves are confident that this knowledge was obtained from a deity with a human head and a dragon's body. And this may well be true, because the Lemurians (reptiloids) once existed on the planet, and they had a high level of intelligence.

Later technology appeared in Japan, where samurai swords were made. There the metal-containing material contained molybdenum, the melting point of which reaches more than 2.5 thousand degrees. In general, molybdenum is one of the most refractory metals on the planet. An interesting picture emerges: people who do not know navigation, eat raw fish and sleep on the floor in paper houses, have at the same time high-tech furnaces that can melt the metal-molybdenum alloy. Historians cannot explain this paradox either. However, they cannot explain and much more, so they simply ignore it.

Meanwhile, samurai swords were made using the following technology. Preparations were made of primary raw materials - metal poles, which for 80 years were placed in a swamp, where the acid marsh swallowed phosphorus and sulfur, significantly reducing the qualities of the metal. Then the workpiece fell into a smithy, it was folded and reformed there many times. A multilayered metal was obtained, and the number of layers could reach one thousand.

Additionally, in the forging process, metal was purified. A plate of high carbon steel was placed between two plates of low carbon iron. In the process of quenching the weapon was bent, and the necessary form was achieved.

Of great interest are the technologies of ancient India. Approximately two thousand years BC Damask steel was commercially produced in Punjab. The blades of this steel had fantastic properties: they could bend at 120 degrees, were self-sharpening and practically did not blunt. In the air, such blades cut silk scarves. According to legends, some warriors used such blades as belts.

Such a weapon was also very light. The technology of making damask steel resembled Japanese, but it also had a number of differences. The primary preform was also placed in an aggressive environment, but these were lightly salted solutions. The iron had to rust. Then the billet was sent to the smithy, repeatedly forged, thus the oxides were lined up in a special structure, due to which the internal elasticity of the metal was obtained. Indian technologists assumed that the metal had to knead, like dough. Damask steel was made simultaneously from steel alloys with different carbon content. When they were mixed and hardened, the layers were visible on the blade.

Indian metallurgists traded with the Hettis who lived in the territory of modern Syria. From them, products went to all the Mediterranean, and from there to Europe, where it was called Damascus steel. Later, it should be noted, the secret of Damascus steel was lost, a lot of fakes appeared.

Of great interest to scientists is a column of pure iron, which is located in the center of Delhi. After research, it was found that the underground part of it is subject to corrosion. In the second half of the last century, American scientists took an analysis and found that the surface of the column was covered with a layer of silicone film. In the underground part of this film was destroyed in places, which led to corrosion. Scientists have not managed to establish the age of the column.

The ancient metallurgists also possessed the technology of obtaining gold. Natural gold is highly polluted, so it must be cleaned, otherwise the products will simply fall apart. When using artisanal methods, gold can be purified only by 70 percent. The most effective method for purifying gold from impurities is electrolysis, which gives

a result of 99.7 percent. Historians, quite obviously did not know chemistry. But chemically pure copper can also be obtained by electrolysis.

During the excavations off the coast of the Tigris on the ruins of the ancient settlement of Seleucia, archaeologists managed to find small clay glazed vessels about 15 cm high. These vessels contained iron rods and copper cylinders, eroded by acid. Scientists have suggested that this is a kind of galvanic cells. After conducting a detailed study, electrolyte was poured into the vessels, and a current of 0.5-0.6 volts was obtained.

Perhaps this is the solution of the art of the Sumerians to cover silver jewelry with the thinnest layer of gold. Then it must be assumed that at the initial stages of the development of human civilization, galvanizing and electricity were already known.

We can give one more example: In China, a study was conducted of the tomb of the commander Zhou-Zhu, who was killed in 297 AD. After conducting a spectral analysis of some elements of the ornament of the tomb, it was found that they consisted of an alloy of copper, magnesium and aluminum. But the first aluminum was officially obtained only in 1808 by electrolysis. In our time, electrolysis is considered the main way to produce aluminum. Thus, we have to either assume that 1.5 thousand years ago there was another way of producing this metal, or people knew electricity and electrolysis.

According to some legends, part of the gold was mined, and some - produced by the god Thoth. That is, it is about alchemy, which involves the extraction of gold from mercury.

For a long period it was considered to be alchemy of pseudoscience. However, in 1941, two Harvard physicists proved that chemical transmutation of metals is possible, and gold can indeed be obtained from mercury. Thus, the alchemical science, which was owned by the ancient Egyptians, proved in the past century.

In the 1970s, the Egyptians invited to explore gold artifacts from the tomb of Tutankhamen English scientists. It was necessary to determine the rocks from which gold was obtained. The results surprised everyone. Some artifacts were made from 99.9 percent purified gold, which indicates the use of electrolysis. There were also artifacts made from 100 percent purified gold with a low level of radioactivity, which proves the use of a nuclear reaction. Currently,

these artifacts are in storerooms and are not advertised.

Thus, it is obvious that the ancient people were not at all so primitive, as is commonly believed. And it is quite possible that modern science will face new discoveries that will shake the world.

## **Warlock on the papal throne**

He came to the papal throne at the turn of the millennium and became the first Frenchman to receive such a high rank. He was an extraordinarily well-educated man and presented Europe with many inventions, in many ways ahead of their time.

His name was Herbert Orlyaksky, and to the Catholic world he is known as Pope Sylvester II. But even the tiara of the pontiff was unable to protect this man from evil tongues; contemporaries, in spite of everything, continued to consider him a warlock and a minion of Satan. The name of Sylvester II is fanned by many legends, but, alas, they are not of those that are composed of grateful descendants.

### **Passion for science**

Herbert was born in the town of Auriyak (or Oriliac) in the French province of Auvergne about 946 years. His family was not rich, and the young man decided to devote himself to serving God, enrolling in the Benedictine monastery of St. Herold.

The legend about his connection with the succubus, a demon who is mortal in the image of a beautiful woman, belongs to the period of a young man's life in the monastery. The temptress of the young monk was called Meridian, they said that she was kindled to him with such passionate love that she promised tremendous wealth and magical help if he responded to her feelings. Herbert, of course, could not resist.

There was this connection or not, but outwardly the young man stood out among the other monks only by his insuperable burden to the sciences. Noticing this, the father superior sent him to study in Spain. Thanks to the close cultural ties of this country with the nearby Cordoba caliphate, Herbert gained access to the writings of Arab scholars and managed to get acquainted with the legacy of Antiquity.

The young man enthusiastically plunged into the study of



previously unknown sciences, especially interested in mathematics and astronomy. It was Herbert Orlyaksy who first realized the advantage of Arabic numerals over the Roman ones. In particular, he surprised his contemporaries with brilliant calculations in his mind, which was completely impossible to do using Roman numerals.

According to the writings of Euclid the young monk studied geometry. It was completely forgotten by Europeans after the fall of the Roman Empire, and therefore, when Herbert mentioned some geometric terms in conversation, for example, “octahedron” or “parallelepiped”, many of his interlocutors were horrified, considering them to be demons.

### **Magic book and black dog**

The most popular legend about Herbert Oriliac tells that during his training with a powerful Arab sorcerer, the young man managed to steal a book from him in which all the magical secrets were kept.

Herbert escaped, but the sorcerer, having discovered the loss, set off after him in pursuit. The monk found himself in a difficult position, as the magician had a horse that galloped faster than the wind, and a dog that could sense everything that was on the ground, underground, on water and under water.

The chase caught the fugitive not far from the town of Martorell, but the monk did not lose his head: having reached the bridge, he hung under it, like on a horizontal bar, thus finding himself in such a place that the dog could not smell it and lost track. So the magic book remained with Herbert, with her help he managed to call the devil, and since then he has always accompanied the monk in the form of a black shaggy dog.

Many detractors believed that it was with the help of the devil Herbert became Pope, and some even claimed that he won the tiara, playing with an unclean dice. However, the further life of Herbert can refute this idle speculation; his way to the Holy See was long, difficult and thorny.

The story knew much more dizzying career ups, so if the devil promised his humble monk his help in this matter, he did not try hard.

### **Under the auspices of the emperor**

In 969, Herbert had to accompany his patron, Count of Barcelona, to Rome. There he was introduced to Pope John XIII and Emperor Otto I the Great.

On the recommendation of the Pope, the emperor offered Herbert to become the teacher of his son. This event was one of the most significant in the fate of a learned monk, the whole further life of Herbert Orlyaksky was held under the auspices of the rulers of the Holy Roman Empire.

Herbert lived for several years at the imperial court, after which he received the post of teacher of rhetoric at St. Remigius Monastery in Reims. Here, the extraordinary abilities of Herbert and the thirst for innovation in all the areas accessible to his genius were fully revealed.

Using the decimal system, he restored the abacus long forgotten by Europeans and even improved it on the basis of the latest Arabic achievements in mathematics.

Paying tribute to his beloved astronomy, Herbert designed the armillary celestial sphere, where the celestial equator, tropics, ecliptic and poles were marked. He began to develop the design of the astrolabe, which was used in Europe only a century later.

Herbert Orlyaksky is also considered the inventor of a mechanical watch. He presented his masterpiece to the city of Magdeburg. It was the first tower clock in Europe. According to the testimony of contemporaries, "they noted all the movements of light, and the time when the stars rise and set." Unfortunately, neither the watches themselves nor their detailed description have survived to this day.

Gradually, Herbert was drawn into politics. It was difficult to avoid this, since that period of European history was a time of unrest and incessant struggle for power and territory. The church took an active part in this struggle.

When, under the name of Gregory V, the pope became Otto III's great-nephew, Herbert was appointed Archbishop of Ravenna. A little later, with the active assistance of the emperor, he received the papal tiara.

## **Pope**

In 999 Herbert Orlyaksky ascended the papal throne under the name of Sylvester II. He chose this name in memory of Pope Sylvestre I, who was an adviser to Emperor Constantine I the Great. From this we can conclude that Herbert himself considered himself obliged to such an high rank to the emperor, but not to any evil forces.

Popular rumor was a completely different opinion. Another popular legend says that Herbert managed to create a copper head - a teraph, which could give advice, answering questions that require a definite answer "yes" or "no." It was thanks to the magic head that he was able to get to the very top of the church hierarchy.

According to another version, the teraphim Herbert was handed the so-called "Nine unknowns" - a mystical secret society, founded by the Indian king Ashoka. The society was designed to protect secret knowledge from the use of the uninitiated, so that the ignorant could not cause irreparable harm to the world and people.

If we accept this hypothesis, it will serve as another proof of Herbert Orlyaksky's outstanding merits. Only a very worthy person could be honored to become the owner of such a powerful artifact.

No matter how Herbert got his dignity - with the help of the devil, the emperor, or a secret society - but the papal tiara brought him neither satisfaction nor peace. He lived in Rome for a very short time, having died under strange circumstances in 1003.

## **Death and burial**

If all the legends relating to the life of Herbert Orlyaksky fit quite harmoniously into his biography, then the legends about death and burial differ greatly in details, and sometimes even contradict each other.

They all agree on one thing: the magic head told Herbert that he would die during the Mass in Jerusalem and the devil himself would take his soul. Frightened by this prophecy, the Pope immediately canceled his pilgrimage to the Holy Land, which he had long been eager to make. However, everything was in vain, Satan found him right in Rome, in the Church of St. Mary of Jerusalem, which was often called the "Jerusalem Church" or simply "Jerusalem."

Further disagreements begin in the legends. Some claim that the devil attacked Sylvestre II right at the altar and immediately tore it

into pieces. Others say that the Pope became ill after the Mass. Understanding that he was dying, Sylvester II asked the cardinals to cut his body into pieces after death so that it would not get to the devil.

Then it was necessary to immerse these pieces on two horses, white and black, who did not know stallions and harness, and let them go. Bury the remains should only be in the place where the horses themselves stop.

Officially, the pope is buried in the Cathedral of St. John Lateran, and the following words are carved on his tombstone: *Iste locus Silvestris membra sepulti venturo Domino conferet ad sonitum*, which means: "Here lies the mortal remains of Sylvester, who will sound by the arrival of the Lord."

But popular rumor did not leave him alone here either. The words of the epitaph about the coming Doomsday and the resurrection of all the righteous were immediately interpreted in a completely different way. The "coming of the Lord" was replaced by the people with the ascension to the throne of the new pope, and the "sounds" were interpreted as the roar of bones. From here, the eerie legend was born that before the death of every pontiff from the tomb of Sylvestre II, a rumble was heard.

There is a version that there is not even Herbert's grave in the cathedral, but there is only a cenotaph - a burial monument in the form of a tomb, which does not contain remains. The cenotaph was constructed when the ashes of the deceased were unavailable for burial. This fact can serve as confirmation of the legend that the body of the Pope was dismembered and buried in different places.

Where in these legends are true, and where fiction is, where simple envy is, and where is superstitious horror, it is no longer possible to understand today. The main thing is that they have kept for us a vivid image of this outstanding person and still attract the attention of many lovers of mysteries and secrets to his person. As they say, notoriety is also glory, and sometimes even it can be very useful.

## **Adam's Bridge and the City of Krishna**

Over the years, scientists have been able to detect amazing

underwater structures. The origin of some of them cannot be explained only from the position of traditional views on the prehistoric era. And archaeologists are increasingly discovering that the descriptions contained in the monuments of ancient literature, consistent with modern scientific discoveries, which can be proof of their unconditional authenticity.

About 11 thousand years ago, due to rising levels of the oceans, the Beringia region was flooded, according to which the first American settlers from Asia fell into North America. Climate changes have led to the melting of the "ice bridge" of the Bering Strait and, possibly, have caused global flooding, the legends about which were preserved by many ancient peoples.

There is a version that the Flood is not a myth, but a real event that took place in the distant past and led to the extinction of all life on the planet. Recent archaeological and geological studies confirm the testimony of ancient people about the great cosmic catastrophe that occurred several thousand years ago.

During the Pleistocene epoch (the glacial epoch) as a result of rising and lowering of the sea level, the land Bering land bridge several times appeared above the sea surface, then hid under it (from 1.8 million to 11 thousand years ago). Then people and animals could move freely from one continent to another.

According to Dr. Elias of the Institute of Arctic and Alpine Studies at the University of Colorado, Beringia was flooded about 10,500 years ago. Later, on the site of the isthmus, the modern Bering Strait was formed.

The level of the Pacific Ocean rose by 40 meters from the previous values, and its waters reached the Arctic Ocean. The disaster led to the fact that the American continent was cut off from Eurasia.

There are hundreds of unrelated testimonies describing a giant flood that has destroyed almost the entire world. For example, we have heard detailed stories about the Flood of the indigenous peoples of America:

"It rained every day, it rained every night. The sky has collapsed. There was no land. All animals drowned. Sushi is gone "(Atapascans).

The Chimalpopok code, perhaps, speaks of a huge tidal wave

that arose during the next rapprochement of Venus with our planet:

“The sky approached the water itself, and one day it was all over. The tops of the mountains protruded above the waters that remained calm fifty-two springs. ”

NASA's photographs of the bridge between India and Sri Lanka demonstrate, in the best possible way, that ancient history is inextricably linked with mythology.

### **Adam's Bridge**

A good example of proving the important role of myths in the study of the heritage of ancient civilizations is the Adamov Bridge. In early 2003, NASA satellites recorded an unusual image that caused a lot of controversy and debate among scientists. The photographs showed an ancient and hitherto unknown bridge in the Polk Strait, connecting India and Sri Lanka. The bridge was named Adam. Its length is nearly 50 kilometers, and, according to some sources, it was a man-made structure.

The Brahmans call the Adam Bridge the “Rama Bridge” or “Nala Bridge”. According to the ancient Indian epic Ramayana, the revered hero Hanuman, an honest and devoted friend of Rama, with the help of his huge army of monkeys and bears built a bridge that allowed the ancient Indian king to cross to Sri Lanka to fight with its ruler, Ravana, the demon who had stolen Rama's beloved, Sita.

*“... At the behest of Rama, the monkeys began to wear logs and stones for the bridge. Some dragged logs, others - stones, others carpentry. On the first day, fourteen leagues were built, on the fifth day the bridge was completed. It came out wide and durable. The monkey army crossed the ocean, Rama and Lakshmana suffered Sugriva and Angada. Marching along the bridge, the monkeys jumped, soared into the air, and their shouts drowned out the roar of the ocean ... ”*

(Myths of Buddhism and Hinduism, Ananda Kentish Coomaraswamy)

Thus, Rama was able to cross the ocean and save his abducted wife.

Curiously, the bridge connecting Rameshvaram (modern India) and the coast of Sri Lanka was built in Ramayana 1,700,000 years ago.

Since its discovery in scientific circles, heated debate has not yet subsided whether the beach in the Indian Ocean is a man-made or natural formation.

For a long time, stories about Dvaraka or the city of gold, one of the seven sacred cities, were considered nothing more than a beautiful legend.

According to legend, the city of Dvaraka was the sunken kingdom of Krishna. He was swallowed up by the ocean seven days after Krishna's departure from this world.

The people who inhabited the city witnessed the impending catastrophe when the sea began to flood coastal villages. In the ancient Indian epic Mahabharata the tragic end of the golden kingdom was described in detail:

*"After all the people left, the ocean flooded Dvaraka, which is still filled with wealth of all kinds. Whatever part of the land is abandoned, the ocean immediately filled it with its waters "*

(Mahabharata, Mausala-parva, 7, verse 40).

However, maritime archeology revealed new evidence in support of the statements of the Vedic scriptures. Dvaraka was considered a myth for more than 5 thousand years, until the esteemed Indian archeologist, Dr. S.R. Rao did not find fragments of stone buildings on the seabed, indicating that several thousand years ago a city really stood on the coast of Gujarat. He wrote about his discovery in detail in the book The Lost City of Dvarak.

What actually destroyed the city remains a mystery, perhaps it was a tsunami. However, the indisputable fact remains that myths are often confirmed by scientific discoveries. The found massive city wall, the large doorway and the bastion of the fortress wall give every reason to believe that Dvaraka really existed, and in some areas inside the country an unprecedented disaster broke out, accompanied by flooding of coastal areas, desertification of vast areas and drying up of a whole network of rivers.

## **The oldest civilization of Iran. Elam**

In IV-III millennium BC the territory of ancient Iran was rather

densely populated by related tribes of similar origin to their eastern neighbors, the Dravids of the Indus Valley. The statehood among them was first passed by the tribes of the country that occupied the southwest of Iran, Elam (this is the name that it took root in science that the Mesopotamians gave to it in imitation of the Elamic self-designation "Hal-Tempt", "Country of God"). The largest centers of Elam were Susa in the west, in the valley of Kerja, and Anchan in the east (modern Tepe-Malian in Fars). The final impetus to state formation among the Elamites was given by the Sumerians, who in the 4th century subordinated Suzian and founded a colony in Susa, which served as a center for the dissemination of the culture and political experience of Mesopotamia in Elam.

At that time, the Elamites took possession of the letter, and with the departure of the Sumerians, they created their own state, quickly subordinating almost the entire Iranian plateau, leading its own colonies to its main centers, known from the findings of the Elam administrative documents (beginning of III millennium BC). The external possessions of the Elamites lost after a few centuries, but their own ethnopolitical unity and statehood held for millennia. Elam was a federation of several "countries" of the principalities, then united under the authority of the dynasty of one or another of them, then again disintegrated. Wherever the ruling dynasty came from, Susa was the capital of Elam, the largest city in Elam, which was located in the most fertile part of the country and controlled the routes from Elam to Mesopotamia.

In the phases of strong unification, the Elamites usually conquered vast interior regions of Iran, and sometimes a significant part of Mesopotamia; in the phases of disintegration, the country declined, lost all conquests and ceased foreign policy activity. Constant geopolitical rivals Elam were states of Mesopotamia, and if powerful obschemesopotamskie Empire (power of Akkad and Ur, Babylonia Hammurabi, Novoassiriyskaya and Neo-Babylonian power) quickly achieved stable predominance over Elam and often occupied Suzianu, in the era of economic and political decline of Mesopotamia advantage in this confrontation went to the Elamites.

For Elam was characterized by the preservation of the archaic customs of tribal antiquity - in particular, the co-government-tripartite, marriages with sisters and Levirate (inheritance of a deceased brother by the brother while marrying the widow of the deceased) in the royal dynasty. The main cells of society were the large families with collective land tenure and land use, gradually



decaying with the release of small private farms. The royal and temple farms stood apart. Mesopotamian sources paint Elam as a country of demons and evil witchcraft, and its inhabitants as greedy for Mesopotamian wealth by highlander robbers.

By the middle of the third millennium, state-building processes encompassed the entire territory of Iran, and it was covered by dozens of “nominal” kingdoms and their associations, which maintained close contacts with each other and were mostly related by ethnos and culture (their peoples, as a rule, belonged to Elamo-Dravid community). In the aggregate, all these entities formed a special regional ecumene, which mediated contacts between similar ecumenes, neighboring with it — Mesopotamian and Indian, and achieved economic prosperity thanks to this mediation and high level of producing economy; these three worlds — Mesopotamian, Iranian, and Indian — constituted a continuous belt of the civilized societies of Asia in the middle — second half of the 3rd millennium BC.

From the ethnopolitical formations of Iran of that era, in addition to Elam, mention should be made of Aratta in central Iran, known for its contacts with Sumer a special ethnocultural community in northern Iran, which occupied Sialk and Gissar and left monuments of the so-called. Of the Astrabad Bronze Age (presumably these were the Caspian tribes, by which the Caspian Sea got its name even in ancient times), the tribal associations of kutyas and lulluys in the mountains of Zagros, the powerful kingdom of Varakhsh in Southeast Iran, which controlled all the territories between Elam and the Indian civilizations, and, finally, the cultural region of Anau-Namazgi in northeastern Iran (the country of Harali, Mesopotamian sources). Territories that lay further to the east entered the orbit of the cultural influences of the Dravidians of the Indus civilization, which sometimes extended their power to the Amu Darya.

In the XXIII century. BC. the western and southern parts of this ancient Iranian ecumene (including the Zagros region, Elam, Varakhsh and Aratta) were subjected to the onslaught of the Akkadian power and at times recognized the sovereignty of its kings, from Sargon to Naramsuen. However, the Akkadian kings did not achieve a strong authority over these territories. State III dynasty of Ur in the XXI century. at the cost of repeated military campaigns, established temporary control over western central Iran and Elam, however, Elam soon rebelled against her power and, after a fierce war, led to the death of the Ur State itself: the Elamites defeated its capital, Ur, and hijacked its last king Ibbi-suen (2003 g.).

OK. 1775-1765, during the reign of King Sivepalarhukhpak Elam, intervening in the feuds of the Mesopotamian kings, even exercised supreme sovereignty over almost all of Mesopotamia, including the famous Hammurabi of Babylon; At that time, the Syrian princes, and, indeed, the united Elamo-Mesopotamian army under the command of the Elamic dynasty Kutir-Lagamara made a sortie into the Eastern Mediterranean right up to Transjordan (the memory of this survived in the Bible, Gen. 14). However, this higher take-off of Elam power turned out to be ephemeral: in 1764, Hammurabi overthrew Elam dominance, defeated the Elamites and their allies in a long war, and himself occupied Suzian.

In the XVIII-XVII centuries BC Iran's oldest civilized ecumene was destroyed by the mass relocation of Indo-Europeans-Aryans (Indo-Iranians) and chain displacements of the Iranian population itself caused by their onslaught; the same chain of migrations destroyed, at its end, Indus civilization. Then the North Iranian cultural community of the Astrabad Bronze was completely destroyed; Namazgi culture carriers fled to the east, and other old centers were neglected. Only marginal, western and southern states of the former Iran were preserved - the Zagros "nomovye" principalities, Elam and Varakhshe. The second wave of Indo-Iranian settlement in the region (middle - third quarter of the second two thousand) led to the fact that only one of them survived Elam. Other non-Indo-Europeans of Iranian-Aryans partially destroyed, but mostly assimilated or pushed into difficult and scarce areas, where they existed as tribal relics for many centuries before the final Iranization (for example, in the middle of I thousand, Balochistan was populated by related Dravidian Aborigines, known to Greek historians as "Asian Ethiopians").

Elam, at the end of the second millennium, is experiencing a new heyday, due to the fact that monopoly and single-inheritance of kings were established for the time in the country instead of the usual co-government. At the end of the XIII century Elam makes successful raids on Kassite Babylonia, and in the middle of the XII century completely devastates and partially occupies it, at the same time delivering a victorious blow to Assyria (during the Shutrukid dynasty, ca.1205-1075, including Shutruk-Nahhunte, 1185-1145, Kutir-Nakhunt III, 1145-1140, and Shilhak- Inshushinaka, 1140-1120). At this time, the expansion of Elam reaches its apogee, and he himself is closest to the usual type of Middle Eastern empire.

However, unexpectedly, the reviving Babylonians, under

Nebuchadnezzar I, were able to smash the Elamites under Darius (c.1115) and crush Elam so much that he disappears from three hundred years from Mesopotamian sources; to the middle. XI century. Middle Elamite kingdom collapsed. A new common kingdom, the dynasty of which built itself to the Shutrukids, but at the same time restored the regime of the tri-ruled, only approx. 7th century. and could never quite overcome the fragmentation of the country. Its external history is almost continuous wars with Assyria, which, despite the strong anti-Assyrian alliance of Elam and Babylonia, were generally unfavorable, and after the defeat of Babylon in 689 - catastrophically for Elam; the inner one was full of unrest, palace coups and rivalry between co-rulers.

As a result, approx. 7th century Iranian-speaking Persian tribes seized one of the most important regions of the country - Anshan, and in 644 Elam was temporarily annexed by Assyria. During the period of the weakening and crisis of Assyria c.624, the Elamite kingdom was restored, but it soon had to recognize the supreme power of the Medes, in the late. , which drew a line under the three-thousand-year history of Elamite statehood. Nevertheless, the Iranization of the bulk of the Elamites did not occur before the turn of the eras, and the remainder held their native language until the X century. AD (the modernized highlanders of southwestern Iran, Bakhtiars and Lurs), are the Iranian descendants of the Elamites.

## **Ancient Mesopotamia. Population**

The population of Mesopotamia (Mesopotamia) ancient Greek geographers called the plain area between the Tigris and the Euphrates, located in their lower and middle course.

From the north and east, Mesopotamia was bordered by the outlying mountains of the Armenian and Iranian highlands, in the west is bordered the Syrian steppe and semi-deserts of Arabia, from the south it was washed by the Persian Gulf.

The center of development of the most ancient civilization was located in the southern part of this territory - in ancient Babylonia. North Babylonia was called Akkad, southern - Sumer. In northern Mesopotamia, which is a hilly steppe, turning into mountainous areas, Assyria was located.

No later than IV thousand BC in the extreme south of

Mesopotamia, the first Sumerian settlements arose. Some scientists believe that the Sumerians were not the first inhabitants of southern Mesopotamia, since many toponymic names that existed there after the lower Tigris and Euphrates settled there by this people could not come from the Sumerian language. It is possible that the Sumerians found in the southern Mesopotamia tribes speaking a language other than Sumerian and Akkadian, and borrowed from them the ancient toponyms. Gradually, the Sumerians occupied the whole territory of Mesopotamia (in the north - from the area where modern Baghdad is located, in the south - to the Persian Gulf). But from where the Sumerians came to Mesopotamia, it is not yet possible to find out. According to the tradition among the Sumerians themselves, they came from the islands of the Persian Gulf.

The Sumerians spoke a language whose kinship with other languages has not yet been established. Attempts to prove the relationship of the Sumerian with the Turkic, Caucasian, Etruscan or other languages did not give any positive results.

In the northern part of Mesopotamia, beginning in the first half of the 3rd millennium BC, lived Semites. They were the pastoral tribes of ancient Western Asia and the Syrian steppe. The language of the Semitic tribes who settled in Mesopotamia was called Akkadian. In southern Mesopotamia, the Semites spoke Babylonian, and to the north, in the middle part of the Tigris valley, the Assyrian dialect of the Akkadian language.

For several centuries, the Semites lived next to the Sumerians, but then began to move south and by the end of the third millennium BC occupied the whole of southern Mesopotamia. As a result, Akkadian language gradually supplanted the Sumerian. However, the latter remained the official language of the State Chancellery in the XXI century BC, although in everyday life, he was increasingly replaced by Akkadian. To the beginning of the second millennium BC e. Sumerian was already a dead tongue. Only in the deaf swamps of the lower reaches of the Tigris and Euphrates, he was able to survive until the middle of the second millennium BC. e., but then there Akkadian took his place. However, as a language of religious worship and science, the Sumerian continued to exist and be studied in schools until the 1st century AD. n e., after which the cuneiform together with the Sumerian and Akkadian languages was completely forgotten. Repression of the Sumerian language did not mean the physical destruction of its carriers. The Sumerians merged with the Babylonians, retaining their religion and culture, which the

Babylonians borrowed from them with minor changes.

At the end of III millennium BC Western Semitic cattle-breeding tribes began to penetrate into Mesopotamia from the Syrian steppe. The Babylonians called these tribes Amorites. Amurku meant "west" in Akkad, mainly in relation to Syria, and among the nomads of this region there were many tribes who spoke different but close to each other dialects. Some of these tribes were called Sutia, which translated from Akkadian means "nomads".

From III thousand BC in northern Mesopotamia, from the headwaters of the Diyala River to Lake Urmia, in the territory of modern Iranian Azerbaijan and Kurdistan, the tribes of the Kutia, or the Gutia, lived. From ancient times in the north of Mesopotamia lived Hurrian tribes. Apparently, they were the autochthonous inhabitants of Ancient Mesopotamia, Northern Syria, and the Armenian Highlands. In northern Mesopotamia, the Hurrians created the state of Mitanni, which in the middle of the second millennium BC. e. It was one of the largest powers in the Middle East. Although the Hurrians were the main population of Mitanni, Indo-Aryan-speaking tribes lived there. In Syria, the Hurrians appear to be a minority of the population. In terms of language and origin, the Hurrians were close relatives of the Urartu tribes living in the Armenian Highlands. In the III-II thousand BC the Hurrito-Urartu ethnic array occupied the entire territory from the plains of Northern Mesopotamia to the Central Transcaucasus. The Sumerians and Babylonians called the country and the tribes of the Hurrians Subartu. In some regions of the Armenian Highland, the Hurrians survived as early as the 6th-5th centuries BC in the second millennium BC the Hurrians borrowed the Akkadian cuneiform, which they wrote in Hurrian and Akkadian.

In the second half of the second millennium BC from Northern Arabia to the Syrian steppe, to Northern Syria and Northern Mesopotamia, a powerful wave of Aramaic tribes surged. At the end of the XIII century BC the Arameans created many small principalities in Western Syria and southwestern Mesopotamia. To the beginning of I millennium BC the Arameans almost completely assimilated the Hurrian and Amorean population of Syria and Northern Mesopotamia.

In the VIII century BC Aramaic states were captured by Assyria. However, after that, the influence of Aramaic language only intensified. To VII century BC all Syria spoke Aramaic. This language began to spread in Mesopotamia. The success of the Aramaic population and the fact that the Arameans wrote a convenient and

easy-to-learn letter contributed to its success.

In the VIII-VII centuries BC Assyrian administration pursued a policy of forcible relocation of conquered peoples from one region of the Assyrian state to another. The purpose of such "shifts" is to hinder mutual understanding between different tribes, to prevent their revolts against the Assyrian yoke. In addition, the Assyrian kings sought to settle the territory devastated during the endless wars. As a result of the inevitable confusion of languages and peoples in such cases, the winner was Aramaic, which became the dominant spoken language from Syria to the western regions of Iran, even in Assyria itself. After the collapse of the Assyrian state at the end of VII century BC Assyrians completely lost their language and switched to Aramaic.

Starting from the IX century BC Chaldean tribes, akin to the Aramaeans, began to invade southern Mesopotamia; they gradually occupied all of Babylonia. After the conquest of Mesopotamia by the Persians in 539 BC Aramaic became the official language of the State Chancellery in this country, and Akkadian was preserved only in large cities, but even there it was gradually supplanted by Aramaic. Babylonians themselves to the 1st c. n e. fully merged with the Chaldeans and Arameans.

## **The mystery of the disappearance of mammoths**

Once upon a time in antiquity on our planet lived countless amazing animals that were striking in their size - mammoths. These are mammals that were covered with brown wool and very much like elephants, they reached a height of 5 meters, and their weight was about 10-12 tons. In winter, the length of wool reached 90 centiments, and the tusks grew to 4 meters. These animals lived mainly in Eurasia, from Chukotka to the British Isles, as well as in the northwestern territories of North America.

If the appearance and habitat of mammoths is more or less clear, then the causes of their extinction are still fierce in the scientific world. The only thing that almost all scientists recognize is that these mammals died out about 10 thousand years ago, although some experts say that mammoths existed in later periods (we'll dwell on this issue a little later).

There are many hypotheses that try to explain the reasons for the

disappearance of gigantic animals. For a long time, it was considered that the ancient people exterminated the mammoths. Then the scientists tried to find the cause in changing climatic conditions, in the spread of the deadly virus that mowed exclusively mammoths, and also in the collision of the planet with a comet. However, none of these theories has ever been officially proven.

Despite the fact that official science claims that mammoths died out many thousands of years ago, there remains are still found. So, in particular, recently scientists from Sweden, led by Anders Angerby, conducted research on the remains of mammoths that lived on Wrangel Island, located in the Arctic Ocean. Since the size of the island is very modest, scientists have assumed that in such a small area mammoths could lose their genetic diversity, which was the reason for their extinction. However, after analyzing mitochondrial DNA, it was found that the level of genetic diversity was normal, and even more so, a small number of individuals lived on the island only some 4,000 years ago. And the first people on the island appeared about a century after the extinction of the last representative of this species of mammals. Thus, it is quite obvious that people are not involved in the disappearance of mammoths.

For some time, the leading hypothesis was the extinction of woolly animals as a result of the collision of the Earth with a comet. It was convenient to consider that the explosion of a comet, which occurred over America, and caused the extinction of some species of fauna, including mammoths and Clovis, the first highly developed human civilization.

The main evidence in favor of this theory is the discovery of rare metal iridium in the layers of the earth's rocks, which is contained in large quantities in meteorites and comets. However, a more thorough analysis showed that similar metal deposits are found in swampy areas where mammoths simply could not inhabit. The same iridium deposits were found on the territory of Chile, however, if the comet exploded over Canada, its parts could not be rejected to such a considerable distance.

Another version suggests that mammoths were victims of mineral deficiency. In this case, referring to the "geochemical model", according to which the mammoths are faced with an acute shortage of micro-and macronutrients, which are necessary for normal metabolism. It happened about 20 thousand years ago, during the last ice age, which covered the Scandinavian Peninsula, most of the

territory of North America, the north of Europe and caused a fundamental change in geochemical landscapes. Simply put, mineral hunger has come. Proof of this theory is the findings found in the Kemerovo region of Russia. They managed to find mammoth bones with clear signs of dystrophic disease.

At the same time, according to P. Puchkov from the Institute of Zoology of the Academy of Sciences of Ukraine, the theory of the extinction of mammoths from the mineral deficit contradicts many facts. So, in particular, medium and large herbivores, which include mammoths, inhabited and inhabit almost all terrestrial landscapes, including those that are considered unfavorable in terms of the availability of trace elements in feed, water and soils. Moreover, modern species of elephants (Indian and African) currently live in mineral-unfavorable areas.

In addition, Puchkov is sure that those mineral-deficient diseases, which were given by the authors of the hypothesis, are generally not characteristic of wild animals, but are inherent exclusively in livestock of highly productive breeds brought to foreign regions. And wild animals, which are characterized by natural selection, are themselves able to regulate physiological mineral metabolism. As for the mammoth bones found in Russia, affected by mineral deficiency diseases, then, the Ukrainian paleontologist notes, this does not mean that the whole species died of this disease.

In addition, Puchkov does not agree with another theory of the extinction of mammoths, according to which the main cause of the death of these animals was the increase in snowiness in the north of Eurasia. According to the scientist, the mammoths were much bigger and more resilient than the surviving ungulates. The legs of the mammoths were higher, in addition, they had sliding fingers and subfinger pillows, which made it possible to change the width of the foot. All this greatly facilitated walking through mud and deep snow. Thick wool and thick skin saved them from injury, deep furrows on the soles facilitated walking on the ice, and tusks helped to crush the crust in search of food. Moreover, contrary to some statements, in the winter period mammoths could switch from grass to branches. Animals of such large sizes were extremely dangerous and difficult prey for predators and hunters, rather than surviving animals.

It should also be noted and one little-known detail associated with mammoths. Few people know, but their last representatives were dwarf mammoths who lived on the Channel Islands of California.



These miniature animals in height did not reach more than one and a half meters. Probably, their ancestors were the Colombian mammoths, large animals for whom it was not too difficult to cross the 20-kilometer strait that separates the Channel from the coast of California and stay on the island.

Water barrier served as a reliable protection from predators, as well as from people who also very rarely swam there. In addition, the strait became much narrower during the ice age, which greatly facilitated access to the island. Until recently, it was assumed that dwarf mammoths existed about 12-26 thousand years ago. However, the last find of the part of the tusk dating needs to be revised, since it has been established that the find is approximately 80 thousand years old. At the same time, if we take into account this date, there was a period of interglacials in California at that time, the sea level was very high, therefore mammoths could hardly swim the distance from the coast to the islands. Thus, we can conclude that the mammoths on the channel for a long time lived in isolation. This may explain the reduction in size.

Scientists say that the migration of mammoths could occur only in two periods: 150 and 250 thousand years ago. However, scientists still have a long time to deal with dating, as well as with the reasons for the mass death of these animals. And in relation to the dwarf mammoths can not apply any of the existing hypotheses. No traces of raids, mass hunts or traps were found on the island. Moreover, at that distant time a man could hardly be on the islands. It does not hold water and the hypothesis of rapid change in climatic conditions. Warming, rising sea levels, rearrangements of plant species, could theoretically cause the death of dwarf mammoths. But if these animals appeared on the Channel about 80 thousand years ago, then it is quite obvious that they were able to survive the more serious tests that happened before.

Certain doubts are also caused by the categorical nature of scientists who say that mammoths died out several thousand years ago. The fact is that mentions of these animals are found in scientific works of a much later period. So, in particular, the greatest number of mentions of cases of meetings of a man with a mammoth was left by a researcher from China Sym Qian in the 2nd century BC. Already in the 16th century AD The Austrian Ambassador to Russia, describing the nature and animals of Siberia, speaks of the existence of a giant-sized beast with long hair and large tusks, which looks very much like a mammoth. In addition, quite a few cases of encounters with woolly

elephants can be found in the memoirs of the Cossacks Ermak.

Thus, it can be assumed that mammoths still quite recently roamed the Siberian expanses.

Another place where you could meet mammoths - Alaska. In its climatic and natural conditions, it is very similar to Siberia. The local population even at the end of the 19th century stated that the mammoth can be found in the deaf wilds.

There are also references to the fact that man met a mammoth in the last century, moreover, not only in Siberia or in the Far North, but also in the Volga region. So, for example, in the Mari Republic, the local population quite often met "hairy" elephants. These animals did enormous damage to the buildings. Even once it came to the point that the inhabitants of several villages were forced to relocate because of the dangerous neighborhood with the mammoths.

Two individuals of this species were observed in 1920 in the interfluvium of the Yenisei and the Oka. There are mentions that in the 1930s mammoths lived on the territory of the modern Khanty-Mansiysk region.

There is even a description dated 1978. In the area of the Indigirka River, people saw about a dozen mammoths in the river, bathed in the river. A whole group of sensible adults was observed throughout this procedure, so it's impossible to attribute history to the category of fiction.

It is quite obvious that it is extremely difficult to believe in all these stories. One can agree that all the numerous witnesses who met with mammoths cannot unconsciously lie. They heard these stories and scientists, but the fact is that in their research they are accustomed to rely on facts, or, in extreme cases, on the testimony of authoritative colleagues, and neither hunters nor the local population of Siberia do not enjoy authority in the scientific world.

It is also interesting that none of the scientists can give the name of the person who first put forward the hypothesis of the extinction of mammoths in the Ice Age.

With the fact that the population of mammoths died out in a short time, it is not necessary to argue, since scientists find numerous burials of these animals. If we take into account that they died about

10-13 thousand years ago, then the question arises: why, in the presence of surviving individuals, did the mammoths not restore the species for such a long period of time? Enemies in such large and strong animals are few, moreover, living conditions are suitable. There is only one answer to this, which does not contradict the logic: mammoths died recently, so they simply did not have time to restore the population. Like it or not - scientists still have to figure it out.

## Secrets of Ancient Egypt

A lot of scientific papers and studies have been written about ancient Egypt. They express a huge number of hypotheses and theories about the pyramids, treasures, all sorts of knowledge and secrets. Oddly enough, but this topic continues to be relevant in the modern scientific world. Disputes of scientists concerning an origin of pyramids do not cease. So, in particular, the Egyptologist from Italy Osvaldo Falestiedy put forward his hypothesis about how the ancient pyramids could be built.

In his judgments, the scientist relies on Herodotus, who was mentioned in the fifth century BC. that the ancient Egyptians had wooden cars to build the tombs of the pharaohs of Egypt. The remains of one of these devices, according to Falestied, were discovered during the excavations of the temple of Queen Hatsepshut in the 19th century. Moreover, the Italians even managed to restore this car, and it earned.

The machine, which Egyptologist designed, resembled a wooden ship, inside of which was placed a stone block, tied with ropes. This unit was rocked with special wedges. It was with the help of rocking, I am sure Falestiedes that the ancient Egyptians could lift huge stones. The discovery of the Italian was tested by American and Japanese archaeologists and engineers. Moreover, after an independent examination, the results were obtained, which confirmed the theory of the scientist. Currently, an Italian is working to create a working model of the device that will help lift stone blocks weighing up to 40 tons.

At the same time, the fact that the solution to the construction of the pyramids was found is not a reason not to admire the pyramids - these grand buildings, in which, besides the size, there are many other secrets. So, for example, the Great Pyramid, known as the Pyramid of Cheops. This is one of the seven wonders of the world, which has

survived to this day. This is truly a fantastic masterpiece of engineering. Its weight is estimated at about 6.5 million tons, and there are more building materials in it than it took to build all the churches, cathedrals and chapels in England. It is unique and extremely accurate orientation of the faces to the cardinal points. Even in modern conditions, achieving such accuracy would require a huge number of specialists and high-precision equipment.

Its base rests on a granite surface and is almost a perfect square with sides of about 230 meters. The entire structure currently consists of 203 rows (approximately 138 meters). At the top 22, polished limestone cladding has been preserved, which can be seen for many kilometers. The question naturally arises: why did the ancient Egyptians need such accuracy if it could not be seen with the naked eye?

According to some scientists, the answer to this question lies, perhaps, in the desire to encrypt certain numerical values in the dimensions of the pyramid. So, in particular, the ratio of the length of the base to the height, divided in half, gives the number "pi" (up to the 6th digit). Scientists say that this number was intentionally encrypted. Such a theory inspired scientists so much that they began to look for other fundamental relationships in the pyramid.

Many people know about the treasures hidden in the pyramids, and numerous robbers. The road to the pyramid of Cheops was discovered in 820 by an Arab named Ale Maamun, who began to disassemble the wall from the north side. First, he showered stones with vinegar and heated fire, after which he used the ram. Treasure hunters heard the sound of falling stones, which helped, ultimately, to find the entrance.

At the moment - this is the main entrance to the pyramid. And the real entrance is at a height of 17 meters above the ground. Inside the pyramid you can see a lot of ascending and descending tunnels, ending in large rooms, closed multi-ton plates. There was a secret passage in the pyramid, which, however, was well known in the period of antiquity. All tunnels and corridors are located at certain angles. Scientists even hypothesized the astrological-temporal meaning of such an arrangement.

It is also surprising that the ventilation ducts maintain a constant temperature in the main rooms. It was also found that the ancient builders left intact the last half dozen centimeters of the block located

at the entrance to the ventilation shafts in the so-called tsarina's chamber. Here, later, archaeologists found a canal about 20 meters high, which went deeper at an angle. In 1993, a radio-controlled robot, equipped with powerful cameras and lamps, was launched on this channel. However, no discoveries occurred, because, as he ran into the dead door. At the same time, according to some signs, archaeologists have concluded that someone was already trying to open the door. Thus, it became quite obvious that behind the door there is another, still unexplored room. Prior to this, Japanese and French scientists have discovered three more unknown premises. In one of them, we managed to find carefully sifted sand, which outside the pyramid can be found only a few kilometers away. In addition, with the help of a probe, foreign bodies were found, but scientists can not yet say exactly what it is.

Earlier, around the middle of the last century, archaeologists found two walled-in niches near the entrance to the pyramid. In one of them in disassembled form lay the real boat of the pharaoh, the length of which was more than 43 meters. It took the scientists 16 years to assemble it. In the second boat was a whole boat. Her scientists do not touch yet, fearing damage, since it is extremely difficult to preserve this amazing find in the air.

The pyramid of Cheops has another amazing feature. So, in particular, the scientist from France, Jacques Bergier, made a cardboard model of the pyramid, and put inside the bovine blood. After some time, it was divided into dark and light substance. Other scientists have found that perishable products can be stored in the pyramid model for a long time. In the model, the plants behave in a strange way: at first they stretch to the east and then move from south to west, describing a semicircle. In addition, it is considered that the pyramid focuses energy from space.

In 1996, the American engineer Manners stated that, in its original form, the pyramid of Cheops had two characteristic features: the glittering surfaces of the sides and the edges concave in the middle part. Indeed, the ancient builders covered the building with polished limestone, whose thickness reached 2.5 meters, and its weight - 20 tons. All these stones were 144 thousand. Thanks to them, the surface was so brilliant that its pyramid could be seen hundreds of kilometers away. For centuries, the locals looked at the pyramid, until the 13th century, when an earthquake occurred and shattered some of the facing stones. Since then, limestone has been used to build and restore mosques and palaces in Cairo.

Limestone stones were fitted to each other with an interval of just half a millimeter and had right angles. This gap was intended for a substance that held the stones together and made them waterproof.

If we talk about the concavity of the faces, which is absolutely impossible to notice from the ground, then the French, who accompanied Napoleon's army in his Egyptian campaign, were the first to speak about it. Then this feature was forgotten, and only recently, thanks to aerial photography of a British officer, they started talking about it again.

It is noteworthy that the pyramids, which were built later, had completely flat edges. Obviously, the ancient builders hid from their colleagues the purpose and meaning of concavities.

To talk about when the pyramids were built at first glance does not make sense, because scientists have already roughly calculated their age - about 4.5 thousand years. However, at present we can safely say that these calculations are very inaccurate. The real age of these structures can be a hundred years older. On the one hand, it is not so much, but on the other - a whole century. Therefore, the British Egyptologist Kate Spence developed the so-called theory of "two stars", according to which the stars Kokhab and Mizar from the constellations Big and Little Dipper helped the pyramids to align the pyramids from north to south. Due to the displacement of the axis of the Earth, these stars did not always point in the same direction. After an exact calculation of the period when they were pointing to the north, it is possible to determine the construction time of the pyramids. In addition, using this theory can be explained and small errors made during alignment. The fact is that the pyramids were built more than one year, so the stars shifted slightly. Consequently, the northern direction also shifted. With the help of this theory, Kate Spence calculated that the pyramid of Cheops was built at least 75 years earlier than is commonly believed.

It is difficult to say whether this theory is true. However, there is no evidence that it is false. In extreme cases, it is reliably known that the pyramids were aligned to the north, because the Egyptians believed that after death the pharaoh would become a star in the northern sky. It is logical, therefore, to assume that during the construction of the Egyptians glanced in the direction of the new abode of their rulers.

Scientists haunt no less than the pyramids and the mystery of the Sphinx. It is known that he was repeatedly bombarded. It is currently located in a pit at the foot of the hill on which the pyramids stand.

More recently, scientists from Japan have found that the stone of the sculpture itself is much more ancient than the blocks of the pyramids. We emphasize: the ancient stone is. Studies have shown traces of erosion at the base of the pedestal from a large flow of water. According to British scientists, the age of erosion can be estimated at 10-12 millennia. All this confirms the theory that the Sphinx was built twice.

At the moment, the paws of the Sphinx and the base have been restored, so it's impossible to see traces of erosion.

Scientists from Tokyo made another sensational discovery: under the left paw of the Sphinx, they found a narrow tunnel that led to the pyramid of Khafre. It begins at a depth of about 2 meters and goes down at an angle. Currently, it is not possible to trace it further, but scientists have promised that they will create a device with the help of which it will be possible to explore this underground passage.

Thus, it is safe to say that humanity is still waiting for a lot of discoveries related to the pyramids of ancient Egypt. One can only hope that scientists will be able to correctly interpret their findings and will not be afraid to tell the public about them.

## Stalin's personal sorcerers

Most modern historians consider Joseph Vissarionovich Stalin an exceptionally sensible person, who did not believe in God or the devil. But at the same time, he was distinguished by heightened suspicion, bordering on paranoia, and could hardly ignore rumors that some people endowed with paranormal abilities could cause serious harm to their enemies without even entering into direct contact with them.

### Spiritual roots

In 1886, the parents wanted to determine Joseph to study at the Gori Orthodox Theological School, but at that time he did not know the Russian language at all, and he could not enroll. For two years he was taught Russian by the children of the priest Christopher Charkviani.

In 1888, Joseph did not enter the first preparatory class at the school, but immediately in the second preparatory, and in September of the following year he was accepted into the first class of the school, which he graduated in June 1894. Joseph was an extremely gifted student who received high marks in mathematics, theology, Greek and Russian. He liked poetry, and in his youth he himself wrote poems in Georgian.

In September 1894, Joseph passed the entrance examinations and was enrolled in the Orthodox Tiflis Theological Seminary. Dzhugashvili was seriously preparing to become a priest, but his acquaintance with fashionable then revolutionary literature attracted the young man, and he began to attend Marxist circles. And soon he showed himself to be such an activist that on May 27, 1899 (in the fifth year of study!) He was expelled from the seminary for “free-thinking” and “reading unauthorized literature”.

The Pupils' Mistakes Magazine, which has survived to our days, is literally replete with records confirming that the future leader was a real rebel: “About reading by the pupil I. Dzhugashvili forbidden books” (including even Hugo’s novel “Workers of the Sea”), “About the publication and Dzhugashvili illegal handwritten magazine ”, “Read unlawful books ”, “A rude explanation with the inspection ”, “Search Joseph Dzhugashvili, searched for unauthorized books.”

After the expulsion from the seminary, Joseph got a job at the Tiflis Physical Observatory as a calculator-observer, which further contributed to the formation of his atheistic world view. Then he became a professional revolutionary and took on the most "dirty" work - for example, for the preparation of expropriations, usually accompanied by a large number of victims from both the "expropriated" and the "expropriated". It is clear that at this time he finally broke up with faith in God and the immortality of the soul. But, as often happens with atheists, he became superstitious.

A superstitious person differs from a deeply religious believer by demonstrative disregard for any church rites or religious rituals, but at the same time accompanied by a fearful attitude to all sorts of signs, prophecies, fortune telling and, most importantly, to rumors of strange events and phenomena that absolutely do not fit into the materialistic picture of the world.



Eyewitnesses who communicated with Joseph Stalin testify: until his death, he continued to be interested in esoteric literature, read relevant translations, made notes on the margins of books that were banned in the USSR for wide distribution.

However, the leader never gave reason to think that he believed these books. Moreover, he banned the commemorative edition of a collection of his youthful poems, in which esoteric and mystical motifs are clearly traced. And yet there is reason to assert that Stalin, as a person, was far from the image of a “steadfast” materialist.

### **Witch for the leader**

Being a fairly well-read person, Joseph Stalin, of course, knew that in occult circles, practices that allow him to influence a person by performing actions with his symbolic figure or photograph (“envolting procedure”) are popular. To counter this effect, one had to enlist the support of more powerful and experienced magicians. There is even evidence that Stalin talked on this topic with the leader of the Leningrad communists, Sergei Mironovich Kirov.

Stalin and Kirov met often and rested together more than once, especially since Kirov had worked in the Caucasus for a long time. Once Stalin told Kirov an unusual legend, which he read in one of the books.

In the fall of 1590, witches from the Scottish village of North Berwick caused a storm at sea to sink the ship of the young king James VI. Thus, the attempt on the king did not occur as a result of the conspiracy of powerful nobles who planned to overthrow him, but as a result of the spells of weak women who are not allowed to leave the decent house in a decent house.

There is no indication that during this conversation, Joseph Stalin directly asked Kirov to find him a suitable “expert” in magic and witchcraft, but Sergei Mironovich, who was really a close friend of the leader, remembered this conversation and, returning to Leningrad, instructed this question to Philip Demianovich Medved - one of the leaders of the local OGPU (later, by the way, convicted in the Kirov murder case).

Long Bear did not have to look. The whole Leningrad was famous for the “hereditary witch” Natalya Lvova, who possessed truly

extraordinary abilities and experience. There is little reliable information about her, but rumors circulated around the city that the “witch” had unusual magical powers.

In detail about Lvov, tells only one famous contemporary in his memoirs - the poetess Anna Andreyevna Akhmatova. Women met in pre-revolutionary times and enjoyed the hospitality of each other. According to Akhmatova, Lvova had at her disposal a rich set of "witchcraft" accessories.

For example, she always had “atam” at hand — a blunt and rather large double-sided knife with a black handle used to direct psychic energy “emanating from the body of the witch itself” into the surrounding space. Apparently, this tool helped the magician to concentrate his "magical power" into an invisible ray.

Akhmatova also mentions a beautiful cup made of “red alloy” - apparently, very old, with a mysterious ornament on the edges. The poetess was unable to determine at a glance at what time and what people did it. In addition, during the performance of witchcraft rituals, some of which, with the permission of the hostess, Akhmatova had a chance to watch, Natalya Lvova always put a special metal band on her head, adorned with a crescent.

### **Natalya Lvova**

The witch had other items that indicated the meaning of her practices: painted wands, dried bird legs, dilapidated books in worn leather covers with gilded copper clasps, jars of drugs and so on. The books, of course, attracted Akhmatov to her - she passionately wanted to look into them, but something kept her from this step; she never dared to touch even one of them.

Akhmatova testifies to the witch’s abilities: “Natalya Lvova gnawed a hernia on a four-month-old child with me. It was a real operation plus a lot of spells and some complicated rite. The child recovered. ”

How could Philip the Bear ignore such a figure?

### **Dangerous tour**

It is known for certain that in 1930, by the personal order of Stalin, Natalia Lvov was summoned from Leningrad to Moscow. In the

capital, she was given an apartment in the center, which in those times indisputably testified to the highest "royal favor": only high-ranking party and Soviet workers, order bearers and public people had a separate living space. It is clear that Lviv began to work hard, fulfilling the secret orders of the leader.

What kind of services could provide "hereditary witch" to Stalin?

First of all - consulting. She could give him advice on protecting the image from magical exposure. Thus, in famous paintings and most of the photographs, not Stalin himself is depicted, but his twins or ennobled image, which cannot be used by enemies for envolting in any way.

And the only authentic photograph of the leader, which Stalin gave to the guests and friends for memory, is absolutely protected from any "magical" effects - he was photographed half-turned on it, squinting and lighting his pipe. Eyes - the most vulnerable in the occult sense of a person - in this picture are covered, and the so-called "external energy circuit" is protected by fire.

Moreover, the real date of birth of Stalin was kept secret. Perhaps, on the advice of Lvov or some other occultist, the leader made sure that outside astrologers could not predict his fate or recognize his weaknesses.

There is a version that the leader used the knowledge and experience of the "witch" to fight with the Freemasons and some political opponents, trying to indirectly suppress their will, subjugate themselves, make them make fatal mistakes. As if Natalya Lvova, in whose magical abilities the leader could see, became a formidable weapon of his secret power — a strong, terrible and mysterious weapon, from which the uninitiated had no opportunity to defend themselves.

Used unusual abilities of Lviv and in the selection of personnel. But the selection of personnel was the main responsibility of Joseph Stalin as secretary of the Central Committee of the CPSU (b). According to widespread rumors, after each of its magic sessions, conducted on the instructions of the leader, there were unexpected personnel changes in the government and leadership of the Bolshevik Party, the essence of which none of the outsiders could understand.

The further fate of Natalia the Lion is hidden in the fog. Perhaps

it eliminated. Perhaps she died of natural causes. Nor have any serious and trustworthy documents about her connection with Joseph Stalin. But there is enough information about another special advisor to the leader - Wolf, Messing.

## **The unusual guard of the Kremlin**

The psychic and the “mentalist” Wolf Grigorievich Messing does not provide details of his conversations with the “leader of nations” even in his memoirs, although he brags about the rest. Archive documents show that, most likely, there were no such meetings.

But we can get a rough idea of the “special” assignments that he carried out for the Kremlin leadership, on the basis of the monograph “Stalin and clairvoyant Wolf Messing” by Varlin Lvovich Strongin. Strongin reconstructs Messing's conversation with Lavrentiy Pavlovich Beria:

“- You serve the true great Leader and Teacher of all nations. I do not take offense at you. Stalin will still see you. I do not doubt it. And in memory of our meeting, I will order to raise your concert rate.

“I have a higher rate,” said Messing.

- We give personal! - has shown amazing awareness in Beria's concert accounting affairs. -More give a tour allowance!

- The surcharge is paid.

- Then get another fifty percent for the skill! - with a view of the benefactor said Beria. - But if you notice a clear deviation in the health of the Leader, then immediately tell me.

“Stalin has his own doctors,” Messing said.

- Today - the doctors, and tomorrow - the killers! Joke! - Beria smiled crookedly and spent Messing before the first guard: -Get him home in my car ... "

Thus, Beria made it clear to Messing that his main work in the Soviet Union would not be pop performances, but monitoring the "health of the leader." But how could Messing, who did not even have a medical degree, help? Probably only one. The “mentalist” could notice what no doctor could see, namely, the consequences of the

destructive psychophysical effects, slight disturbances in the leader's motility, inconsistency of his behavior with a certain standard.

Thanks to his extraordinary observation, Messing managed to become a famous illusionist; The same observation could help protect Stalin from the implicit influence on his mental health.

It is curious that work on creating a "magical" security structure of the Kremlin was carried out in all possible directions. For example, before the war, graphology (that is, the compilation of a psychological portrait in handwriting) was considered one of the varieties of magic, and serious people did not hold it for science. However, the Soviet leadership thought differently and in every way "fed" professional graphologists, keeping them on a short leash.

Unfortunately, there were no exhaustive documents containing the details of the formation of such an unusual special service. Perhaps they will never be discovered, and the secret of the Kremlin "magicians" will remain among the beautiful intriguing urban legends.

## Where have the giants gone?

In almost all cultures and all nations there are myths and legends about giants that are very similar to people. In all world religions and beliefs there are references to giants. If you believe these legends, it turns out that on our planet there was not a single corner, no matter where they lived. With the race of giants, scientists associate the existence of other civilizations, whose representatives possessed great growth. But the civilizations of Boreus, giants, warriors, Hyperboreans, Sarmatians and even dragons are indeed related or even synonymous. All other races were the result of the providence of God or semi-divine beings.

No evidence of their existence is left, since after the end of the term of earthly existence, they simply dissolved in space. At the same time, they could well participate in the construction of mega-structures. These are the civilizations of Atlanta, Anti-Gods, Cyclopes, Lemurians. There is a hypothesis according to which, after the disappearance of the Atlantean race, a civilization of giants or giants appeared, who called themselves Boreans.

The belief that they really existed is so ingrained in human consciousness that even the huge megaliths of Europe or the pyramids

of Egypt and South America are called by people only Cyclopean buildings. Moreover, even in the official history there are references to the fact that once there were giants on Earth who were very much like people. And a significant amount of finds is powerful evidence that the civilization of giants is not fiction. They not only lived on the planet, but also had a great influence on the course of history.

The first scientist who spoke about the existence of giants in the ancient period of history was Ekimov, director of the Institute of Anthropology of the USSR Academy of Sciences, who claimed that the representatives of this race reached 5 meters and could weigh up to semitones. The Bible mentions that Noah, who built the ark to save all life, was also of enormous height, about 5-6 meters.

Many millions of years ago, our planet captured an asteroid with a field that exceeded the size of the moon. This asteroid became a satellite of the Earth. The attraction weakened due to tidal forces, as a result of which the civilization of giants, giants and giants arose. After hundreds of thousands of years, the satellite's orbit approached the planet, the satellite itself exploded, and fragments fell to Earth. People who survived were already smaller, because gravity increased significantly. These people built a new civilization, which reached a high spiritual and intellectual level. That was the civilization of the Giants.

After several million years, the planet attracted a new satellite, which resulted in new cataclysms (floods, mountain building, and tectonic shifts). The new satellite also fell to the surface of the Earth, the poles shifted. The North Pole, which was previously in the Himalayan region, Tibet, Gobi, moved to the Arctic. All this forced the ancient civilization to adapt to the new conditions of life. People have become smaller growth and formed a civilization of the Giants. New cataclysms have changed the level of the oceans, provoked earthquakes. Atlantis, which was one of the centers of the Giant civilization, disappeared. Significant changes have also occurred in the Arctic: the climate has changed; the cooling and gradual icing of the continent has come, which forced people to begin a long migration to the South.

At the moment, science has established that the ancient atmosphere on earth contained 50 percent more oxygen than it is now. Thanks to this discovery, scientists have explained the existence of giant animals and plants. This discovery made it possible to assume that human nature was also different, and the air, in which there was

a lot of oxygen, ensured the life of the race of giants.

According to anthropologists, nature has had a significant influence on the large growth of people, the climate of which was completely different. The temperature was higher; the water was oversaturated with calcium, which contributed to a huge increase. However, this was before the Flood period.

When many plants, including cultural ones, disappeared from the biosphere, the descendants of the Atlanteans were forced to switch to meat-eating and even cannibalism. Of course, all the animals were eaten, but the people who lived in groups were much easier to catch than to catch the number of animals to get enough.

The greatest number of legends and myths about giants remained in the Germanic and Scandinavian countries, as well as in Tibet. Scientists hypothesized that long before the beginning of a new era, two races lived on the planet - humans and giants. And in ancient manuscripts it is even said that periodically there was a struggle between gods and giants.

There are references to giants in ancient Russian epics. It is about the heroes who lived in immemorial times.

From all sources you can leave a general idea of the giants. They had tremendous power, thanks to which there are many gigantic monuments left in the world, including Stonehenge, Sphinx, Tibetan Gord of the Gods, Teotihuacan. And in Lebanon, for example, at the base of the Baalbek terrace there are three large stone blocks, each of which weighs at least 800 tons. They fit together with amazing precision, and this is almost impossible to do even with the use of modern construction equipment. In order to at least slightly move one such unit, an effort of more than 40 thousand people is necessary. These buildings are indirect evidence of the existence of giants: all dolmens, menhirs, fortress walls 20 meters high, Baalbek terraces, houses were built not by whim, the growth of the ancient race did not allow building smaller structures.

Giants possessed such knowledge, to which even modern science has not yet reached. In the clay tablets of ancient Babylon there are mentions that the priests received astronomical knowledge from people of very great height. And, for example, the temple of Atlanta, which opened astronomy to people, thanks to which it was immortalized in the form of a strong man supporting the arches of

Tiiuyukan, designed similarly to the structure of the Solar System.

There are references to giants in the Old Testament. So, in particular, it says that they are descended from the union of "God's sons" and "human daughters." God, according to the Bible, saw how depraved people had become, punished them by sending the Great Flood. According to legends, giants too lightly reacted to the elements, for which they paid - most of them died. On board Noah's ark only one giant entered - Og, which Noah locked behind a solid grid. When the rain ended, Og went to Palestine. The fate of the giant is already described in the Torah. Moses, having left Egypt with his people, once sent scouts to Palestine, who met the giants who were ruled by that same Og.

No less famous historical character is Goliath, whose height reached three meters. It is known from history that King David entered into a duel with him and won.

The Kitovras legends also belong to the most ancient period of history. They are known to many nations, but each nation has its own name. So, for example, in India, these are myths about the Gandharvas, in Greece, legends about Chiron, in Iran, about the Gandarvas, in the Scandinavian countries, about the powerful giant who built the city of the gods Asgard with his horse. The Celts attributed many of the acts of Kitowras to Merlin, in particular, this is a magic transfer of the Stonehenge stones to the British Isles from Ireland. The demonic assistant of Solomon is present in the legends of the Semitic peoples. The cuneiform clay tablets of the Assyrians contain legends about a giant named Izdubar, who was significantly higher than all other people.

It should be noted that archaeological excavations often confirm the existence of giants. So, according to the legends, the giants tried to find salvation in the Caucasus Mountains. And it was there that archaeologists found the remains of giants. One of the most amazing discoveries of recent times were skeletons, which reached four meters. They were found in one of the caves in the mountains of Georgia.

In the records of the Tibetan monk Trump one can find references to the fact that during the next excavations an underground monastery was found, in which there were bodies of men and women 5 and 6 meters tall.



American judge West in the 19th century in the forests of Western Missouri found burial mounds, inside which he found human bones of enormous size. The jaw of one of the skeletons was several times larger than the human one. In the same century, a six-fingered mummy was found on the territory of Ireland, the height of which was almost 4 meters.

At the beginning of the last century, in 1912, in the US state of Nevada, archaeologists discovered three-meter red-haired mummies. In 1935, human teeth were found in Hong Kong, which were 5 times larger than the teeth of a modern person.

In the 1950s in Turkey, during roadwork, builders accidentally stumbled upon skeletons, the thigh bones of which reached 1.2 meters. In Alaska, during the leveling of the grave mounds in 1950, the skulls and petrified bones of people were pulled to the surface. The skulls in width reached 30 centimeters, in height - 58 centimeters. Jaws had two rows of teeth. The bones of the leg reached a length of 1.5-1.8 meters.

In the 1970s, an American expedition on the island of Ponape raised human skeletons that were twice the size of modern humans.

Similar finds happened later. So, for example, in 1999 in Mongolia, British scientists found a petrified skeleton, the bones of the legs reaching approximately 7 meters, and the entire height exceeded 15 meters.

Archaeologists have found and traces of giants. So, in Turkmenistan, found a footprint, that age was 150 million years. In Nevada, a footprint 60 cm long was also found, its age was about 248 million years.

In 2011, in the valley of the Kura River, in the Borzhomi Gorge, quite by chance, local residents found the skeleton of an ancient man. According to scientists, its age is estimated at several millennia. The growth of the skeleton reaches 3 meters. Scientists have put forward a hypothesis, according to which, during the life of a giant, it underwent mutations, as a result of which it achieved great growth. However, the expertise has refuted this theory.

There are a lot of such finds all over the world. Unfortunately, most of them are by now lost, some are in museums. At the same time, modern science completely ignores their existence, since for the

most part scientists do not perceive legends and myths about giants as truth. Some of the finds are rumored to have been destroyed by archaeologists themselves. Therefore, to believe or not to believe in the existence of giants - let everyone decide for himself.

## **Afterword**

This concludes a brief overview of the ancient mysteries. I hope this book has helped you better understand the history of our civilization.

***Bests regards, Jennifer S. Dawson***